

Stanford University
Department of Sociology

**Report for MTurk Pilot:
study version 2022/08/02**

Prepared by: David Broska

Date: November 2, 2022

Contents

Contents	i
List of Figures	ii
List of Tables	ii
1 Data collection	1
1.1 Completion time after cutting videos	1
1.2 Attention and manipulation checks	1
1.3 Treatment assignment	2
1.4 Code book	2
1.4.1 Question text	2
1.4.2 Composite items	3
1.5 Reliability	4
2 Descriptive statistics	4
2.1 Dependent variables	4
2.1.1 General welfare preferences	5
2.1.2 Specific welfare preference	6
2.1.3 Support for the poor	7
2.1.4 Support for hard-working people	7
2.1.5 Social mobility policy	8
2.1.6 Inequality	9
2.2 Mediators	10
2.2.1 Empathetic concern	10
2.2.2 Perspective taking	11
2.2.3 Situational attribution of poverty	12
2.2.4 Dispositional attribution of poverty	13
2.3 Moderators	15
2.3.1 Perceived income	15
3 Composite	16
3.1 Dependent variables	16
3.2 Mediators	18

4	Regression analysis	19
4.1	Support for welfare policy	19
4.2	Support for welfare policy adjusted for demographics	20
4.3	Mediators	22
4.4	Mediators adjusted for demographics	24
5	Moderated-mediation analysis	28
6	Key takeaways	29
6.1	Interaction effect	29
6.2	Income	29
6.3	Mobility	30
6.4	Moderated Mediation	30
6.5	Unexpected results	30

List of Figures

1	General welfare preferences	5
2	Specific welfare preferences: Food stamps and food banks	6
3	Specific welfare preferences: Unemployment Insurance and health care	6
4	Social mobility policy: Childhood education	8
5	Social mobility policy: College education	8
6	Empathetic concern (1)	10
7	Empathetic concern (2)	11
8	Perspective taking (1)	11
9	Perspective taking (2)	12
10	Dispositional attribution (1)	13
11	Dispositional attribution (2)	14
12	Perceived level of income when growing up versus current perceived income	15
13	Number of respondents who experienced upward mobility, downward mobility, or no change in socioeconomic status	15
14	GenWelfSupp and Welf4Poor composite	16
15	Welf4HardWork and SpecWelf4Mobility	17
16	SpecWelf4Poor and IneqMagnPercept composite	17
17	Empathetic concern and perspective taking composite	18
18	Dispositional and situational attribution composite	18
19	Effect plot for the two conditions and their interaction	19
20	Effect plot for the two conditions and their interaction while controlling for demographic variables	20
21	Effect plot for regressing the mediators on the two conditions and their interaction	22
22	Effect plot for regressing mediators on the two conditions (without interaction)	23
23	Effect plot for regressing mediators on the two conditions and their interaction adjusted for demographics variables	24
24	Effect plot for the two conditions (without interaction) adjusted for demographics	26
25	Direct, indirect, and total effects in the low mobility condition with % explained by mediator	28
26	Direct, indirect, and total effects in the high mobility condition with % explained by mediator	28
27	General support for welfare policies	29

List of Tables

1	Completion time	1
2	Assignment of 216 participants to combinations of survey quota and conditions	2
3	Key to dependent variables	2
4	Key to mediator variables	3
5	Key to composite dependent variables	3
6	Key to composite mediators	3
7	Reliability for each of the two items used to form the composite scales for welfare policy support	4

8	Reliability for all items used to form the composite scales for mediators	4
9	Transition percentages from perceived past income (rows) to perceived current income (columns) . .	16
10	Regression table for welfare preferences	19
11	Regression table for welfare preferences adjusted for demographics	21
12	Regression table for mediators on the two conditions and their interaction	22
13	Regression table for mediators on the two conditions (without interaction)	23
14	Regression table for mediators on conditions and their interaction adjusted for demographics	25
15	Regression table for mediators on conditions (without interaction) adjusted for demographics	27

1 Data collection

1.1 Completion time after cutting videos

We conducted a $n = 15$ pilot on Oct 10, a second $n = 15$ pilot on Oct 12, and a $n = 201$ study on on October 13-14, 2022 on MTurk.

Cutting the videos reduced the median response time from 17min 18s in first and second pilot to 16min 8s in the third pilot.

Table 1: Completion time

Study	Min	Median	Mean	Max	n
new (cut videos)	8min 59s	16min 8s	17min 25s	61min 58s	201
old (uncut videos)	3min 49s	17min 18s	19min 32s	40min 14s	33

1.2 Attention and manipulation checks

The responses from the first $n = 15$ pilot were discarded because respondents saw a different version of the study, i.e. that with the longer videos. The remaining 216 respondents completed attention and manipulation checks at an acceptable level.

- **Attention:** 216 out of 216 (100%) respondents selected the correct answer.
- **Mobility manipulation:** 211 out of 216 (97.69%) respondents selected the correct answer when asked about the availability of opportunities according to the vignette.
- **Subjective effort based mobility:** Respondents in the low mobility condition perceive mobility to be lower on average (31.9) than those in the high mobility condition (58.9) with $p < 0.01$.
- **Empathy manipulation:** In three survey items, respondents indicated on average more empathy towards the individuals in the homelessness videos when compared to those in the control videos with $p < 0.01$, $p < 0.01$, and $p < 0.01$ respectively.

The following analysis was conducted on 216 out of 216 initial observations.

1.3 Treatment assignment

Table 2: Assignment of 216 participants to combinations of survey quota and conditions

Party	n	Mobility		Empathy	
		Condition	n	Condition	n
Democrat	75	high	35	control	20
				treatment	15
		low	40	control	16
				treatment	24
Republican	71	high	35	control	12
				treatment	23
		low	36	control	25
				treatment	11
Independent	70	high	36	control	17
				treatment	19
		low	34	control	18
				treatment	16

1.4 Code book

1.4.1 Question text

Table 3: Key to dependent variables

Variable	Question Text
dv_gen_welfare_1	Welfare programs by the government are necessary to ensure fairness in our society.
dv_gen_welfare_2	The United States federal government is spending too much money on welfare.
dv_welfare_poor_hard_1	We should increase funds for government programs designed to care for poor people.
dv_welfare_poor_hard_2	We should expand government programs that help poor people access the basic resources they need.
dv_welfare_poor_hard_13	We should increase funds for government programs designed to give hard-working people a chance to advance economically.
dv_welfare_poor_hard_14	We should expand government programs that help hard-working people to get ahead in society.
dv_spec_welfare_pol_1	...expand access to food stamps.
dv_spec_welfare_pol_2	...increase federal funding for food banks.
dv_spec_welfare_pol_13	...invest more in the unemployment insurance (UI) system to help people who have lost their jobs.
dv_spec_welfare_pol_14	...improve access to health care for poor people.
dv_mobility_pol_1	...create a “baby bonds” program in which every American child receives a trust fund of \$50,000 for college tuition, buying a home, or starting a business.
dv_mobility_pol_2	...increase financial aid so that more low-income students can attend college.
dv_mobility_pol_3	...increase government-funds for preschool programs.
dv_mobility_pol_10	...make public colleges and universities tuition-free.
dv_ineq_1	In your judgement, how large or small is the difference in income between the rich and the poor in the United States?

Table 4: Key to mediator variables

Variable	Question Text
empa_conc_1	Others' economic misfortunes do not disturb me that much.
empa_conc_2	I feel great concern for Americans born in poverty.
empa_conc_3	I don't feel very sorry for poor people.
empa_conc_4	I feel a great deal of empathy for poor Americans.
me_persp_tak_1	To really understand a poor person's situation, you need to "put yourself in their shoes."
me_persp_tak_2	I find it difficult to see things from a poor person's point of view.
me_persp_tak_3	Before judging someone in poverty, I think it is important to see things from their perspective.
me_situational_attr_1	me_situational_attr - Failure of society to provide good schools for Americans
me_situational_attr_2	me_situational_attr - Low wages in some businesses and industries
me_situational_attr_3	me_situational_attr - Failure of private industry to provide enough jobs
me_situational_attr_4	me_situational_attr - Prejudice and discrimination
me_dispos_attr_5	me_dispos_attr - Being taken advantage of by rich people
me_dispos_attr_6	me_dispos_attr - Lack of thrift and proper money management skills
me_dispos_attr_7	me_dispos_attr - Lack of effort by the poor themselves
me_dispos_attr_8	me_dispos_attr - Lack of ability and talent

1.4.2 Composite items

Table 5: Key to composite dependent variables

Composite	Items
GenWelfSupp	dv_gen_welfare_1, dv_gen_welfare_2rec
Welf4Poor	dv_welfare_poor_hard_1, dv_welfare_poor_hard_2
Welf4HardWork	dv_welfare_poor_hard_13, dv_welfare_poor_hard_14
SpecWelf4Mobility	dv_mobility_pol_10, dv_mobility_pol_2, dv_mobility_pol_1, dv_mobility_pol_3
SpecWelf4Poor	dv_spec_welfare_pol_1, dv_spec_welfare_pol_2, dv_spec_welfare_pol_13, dv_spec_welfare_pol_14
IneqMagnPercep	dv_ineq_1

Table 6: Key to composite mediators

Label	Composite	Items
Empathy	empa_conc	empa_conc_1rec, empa_conc_2, empa_conc_3rec, empa_conc_4
PerspTak	persp_tak	me_persp_tak_1, me_persp_tak_3
DispAttr	me_dispos_attr	me_dispos_attr_6, me_dispos_attr_7, me_dispos_attr_8
SitAttr	me_situational_attr	me_situational_attr_2, me_situational_attr_3, me_situational_attr_4
SubjMob	sub_effort_1	sub_effort_1

1.5 Reliability

Table 7: Reliability for each of the two items used to form the composite scales for welfare policy support

Composite	Cronbach's alpha		Guttman's
	raw	standardized	Lambda 6
GenWelfSupp	0.85	0.85	0.74
Welf4Poor	0.98	0.98	0.96
Welf4HardWork	0.97	0.97	0.95
SpecWelf4Mobility	0.89	0.89	0.88
SpecWelf4Poor	0.95	0.95	0.94
IneqMagnPercep	-	-	-

Table 8: Reliability for all items used to form the composite scales for mediators

Composite	Cronbach's alpha		Guttman's
	raw	standardized	Lambda 6
Empathy	0.88	0.88	0.89
PerspTak	0.79	0.81	0.79
DispAttr	0.70	0.71	0.70
SitAttr	0.83	0.84	0.80
SubjMob	-	-	-

2 Descriptive statistics

2.1 Dependent variables

Note: The figures report the mean in the four groups and the associated standard error of the mean (se).

2.1.1 General welfare preferences

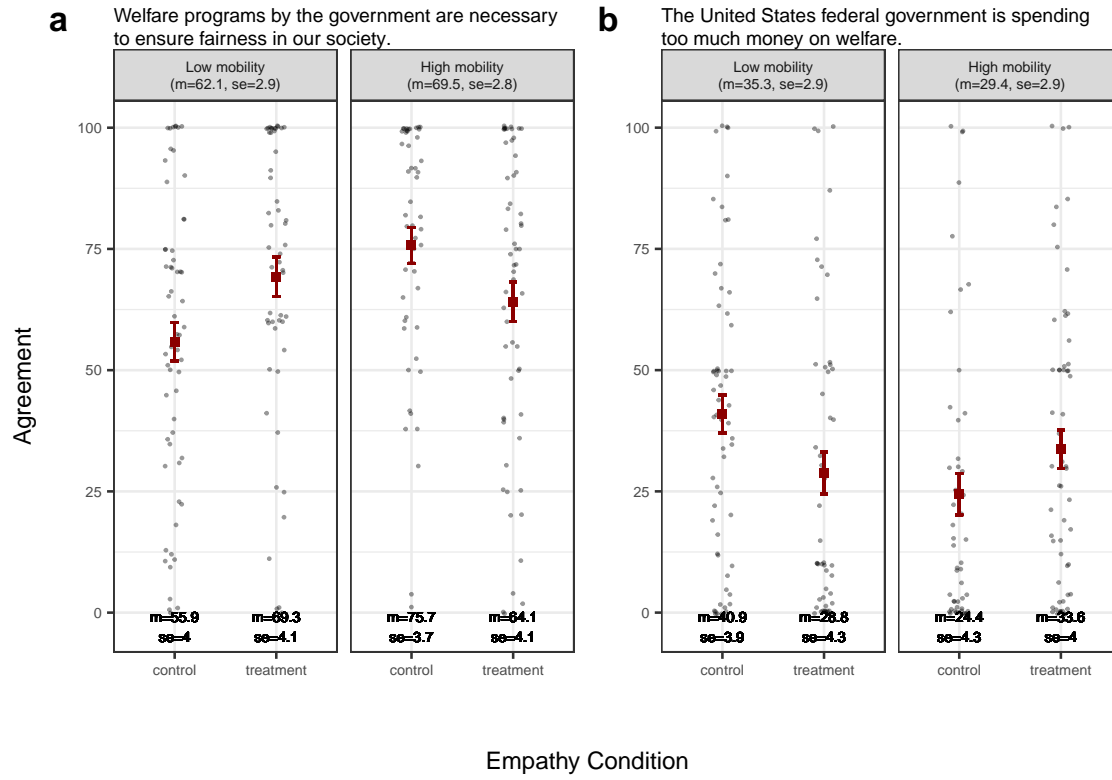


Figure 1: General welfare preferences

2.1.2 Specific welfare preference

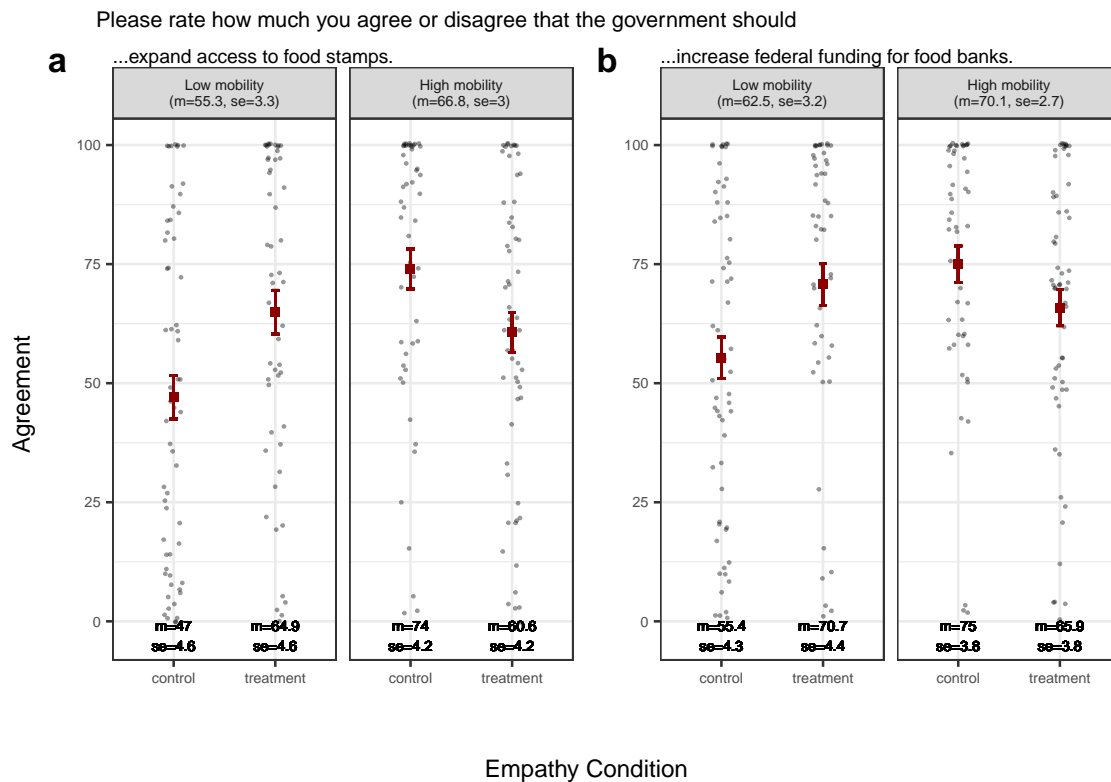


Figure 2: Specific welfare preferences: Food stamps and food banks

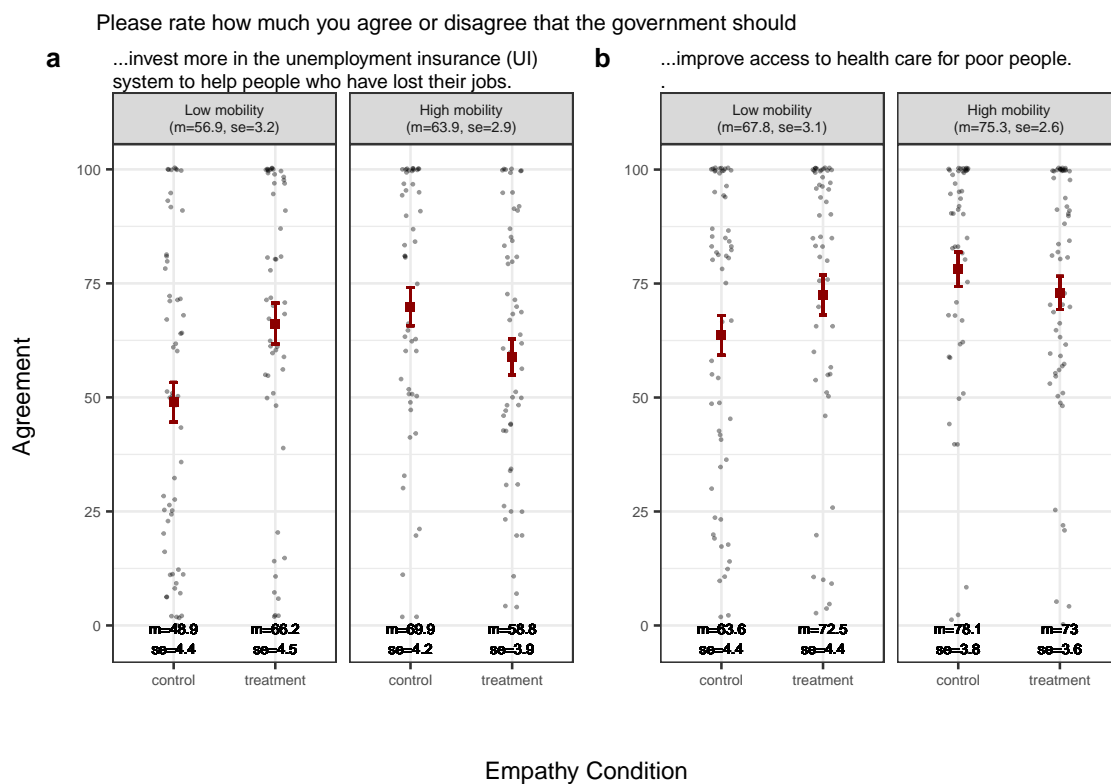
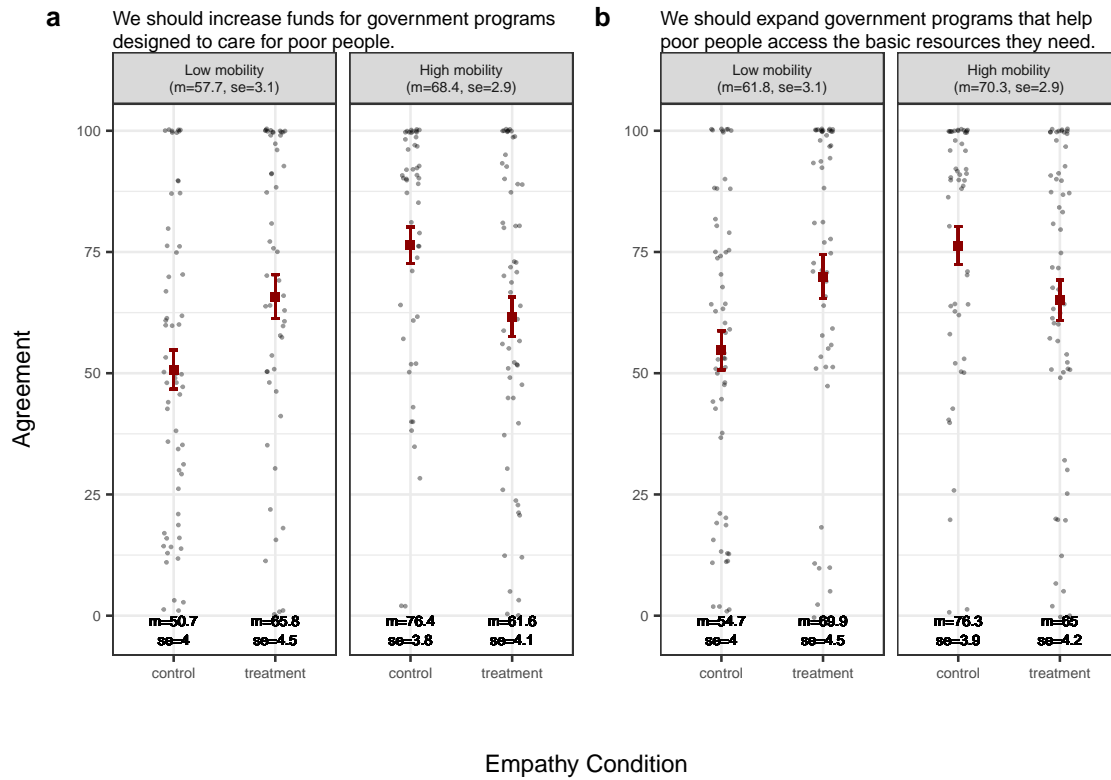
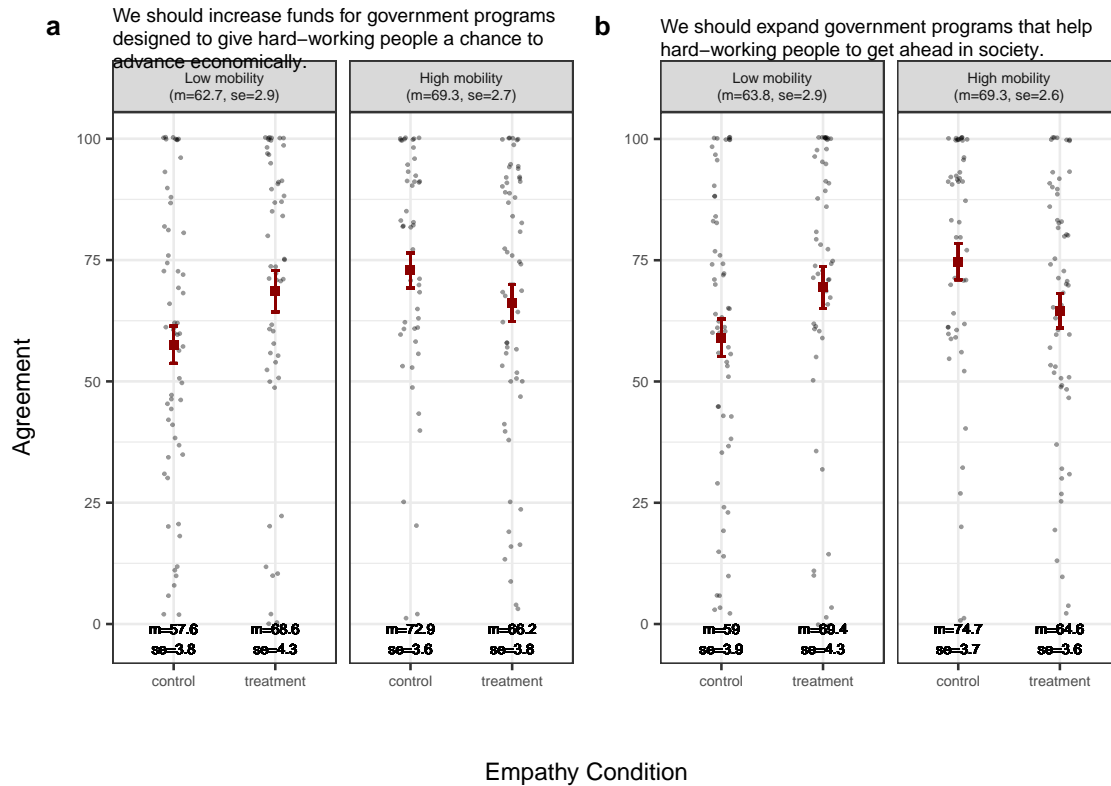


Figure 3: Specific welfare preferences: Unemployment Insurance and health care

2.1.3 Support for the poor



2.1.4 Support for hard-working people



2.1.5 Social mobility policy

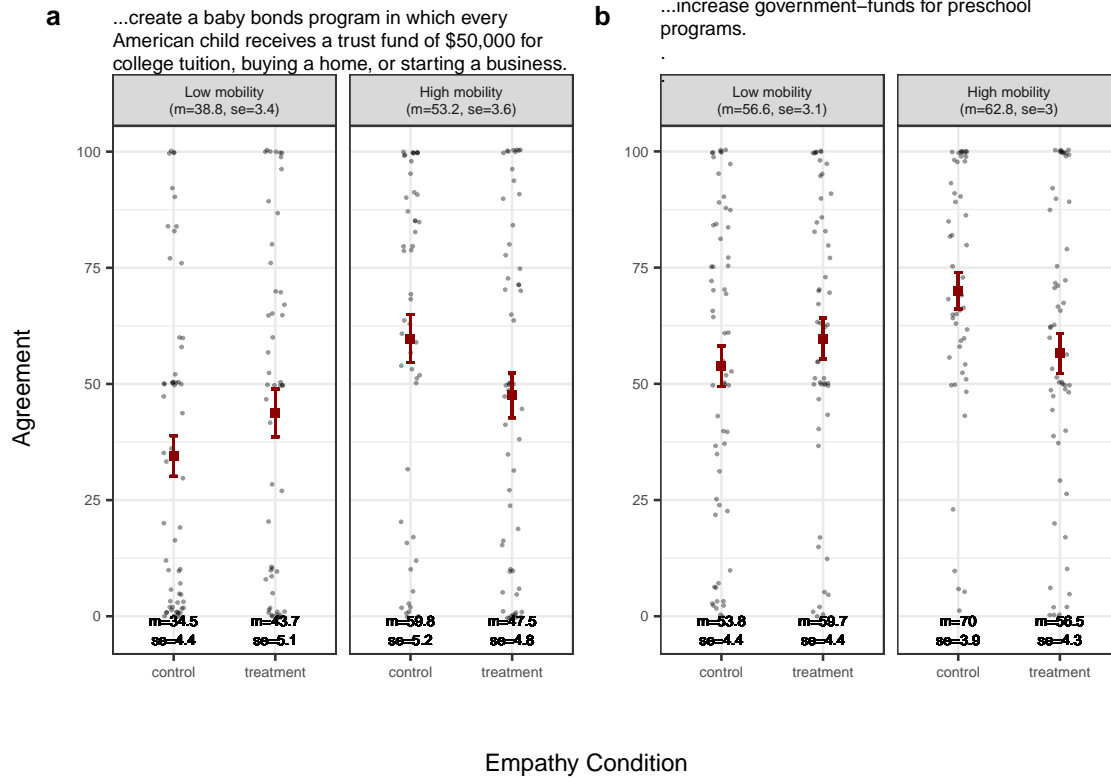


Figure 4: Social mobility policy: Childhood education

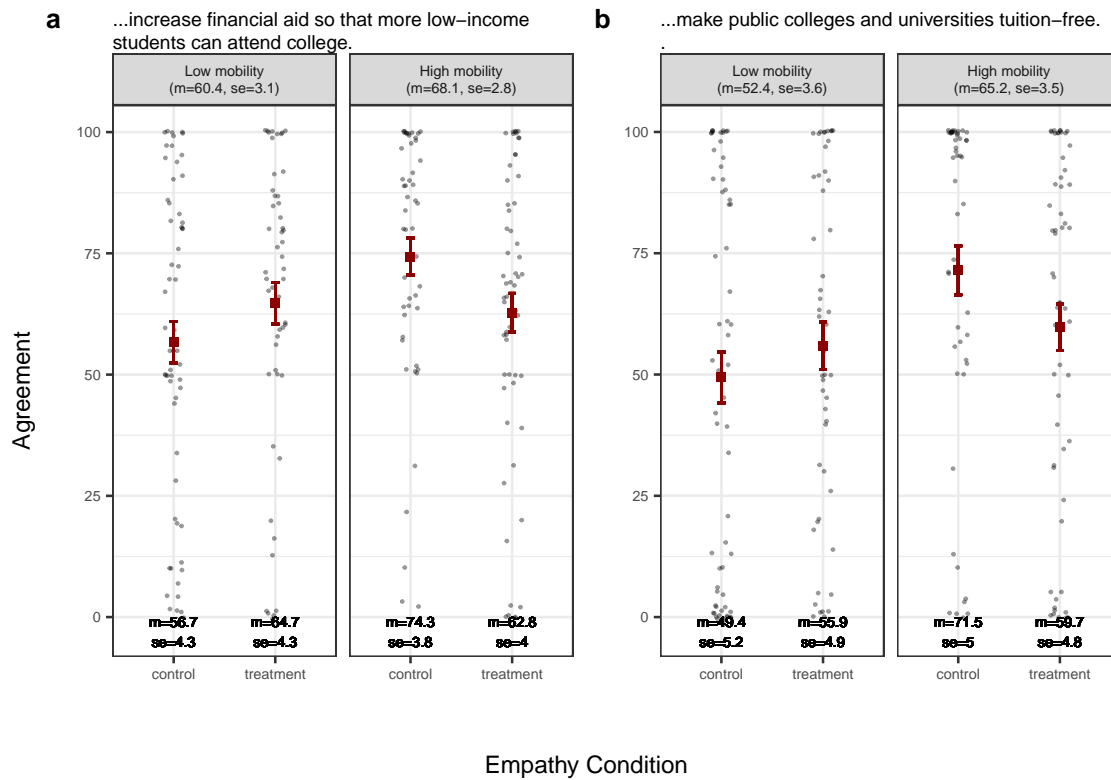
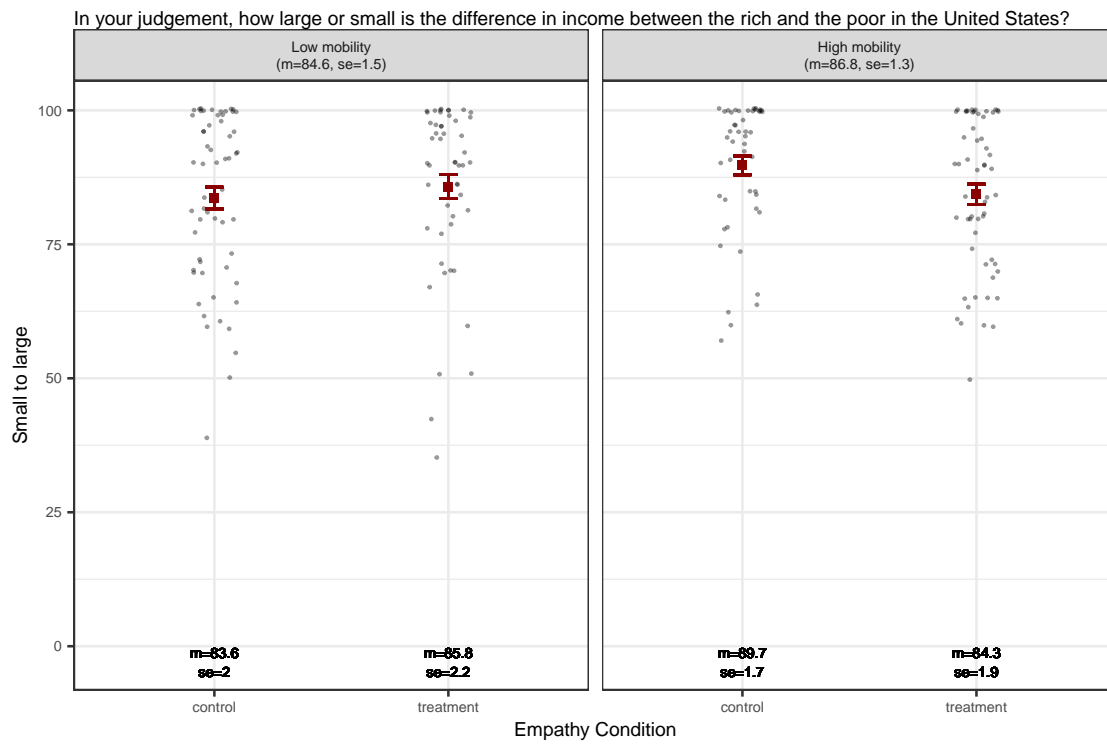


Figure 5: Social mobility policy: College education

2.1.6 Inequality



2.2 Mediators

2.2.1 Empathetic concern

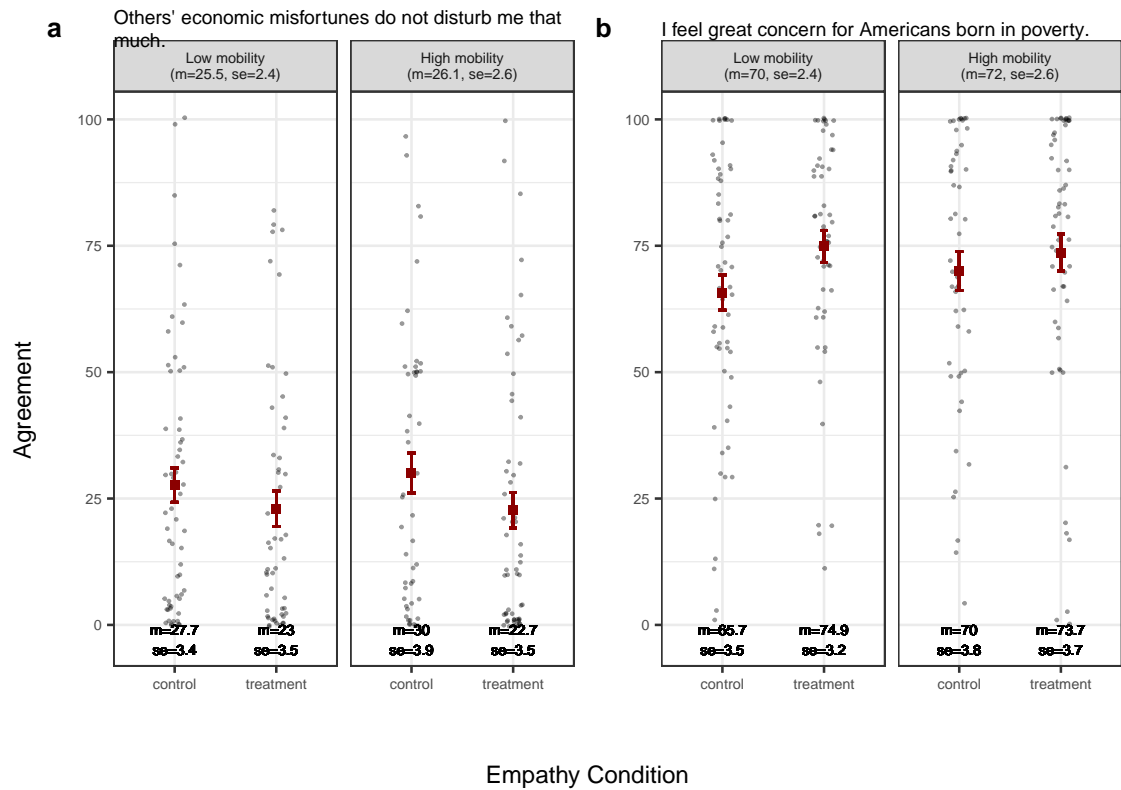


Figure 6: Empathetic concern (1)

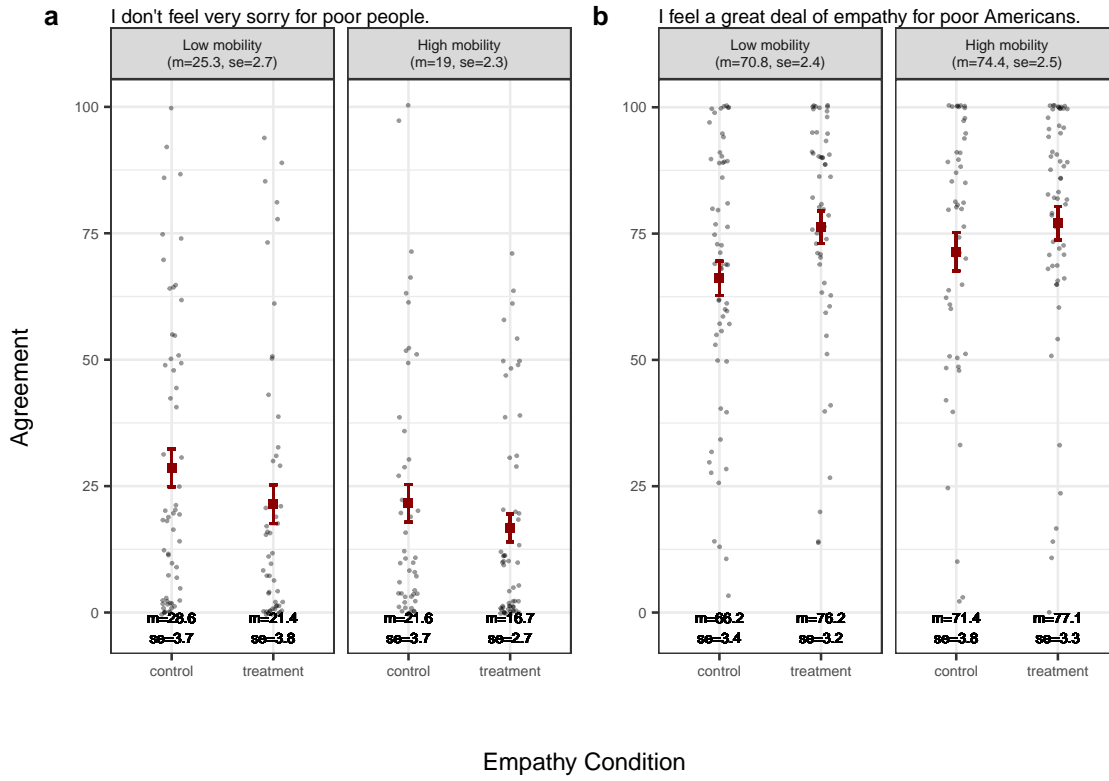


Figure 7: Empathetic concern (2)

2.2.2 Perspective taking

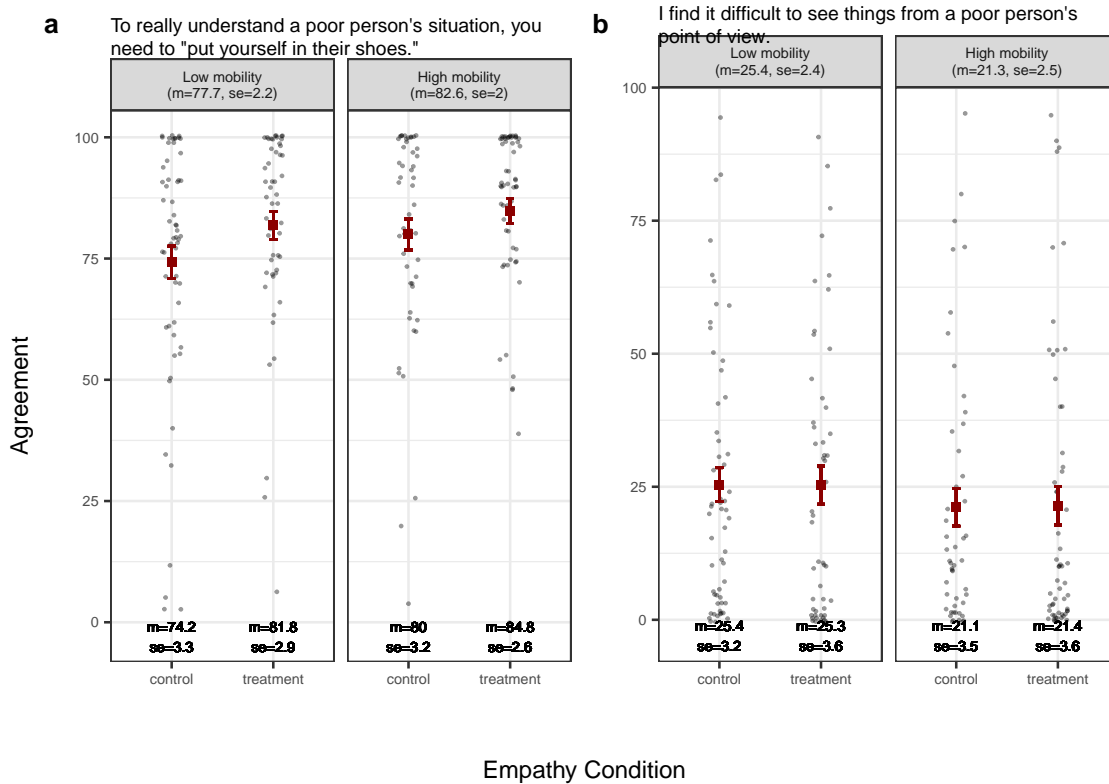


Figure 8: Perspective taking (1)

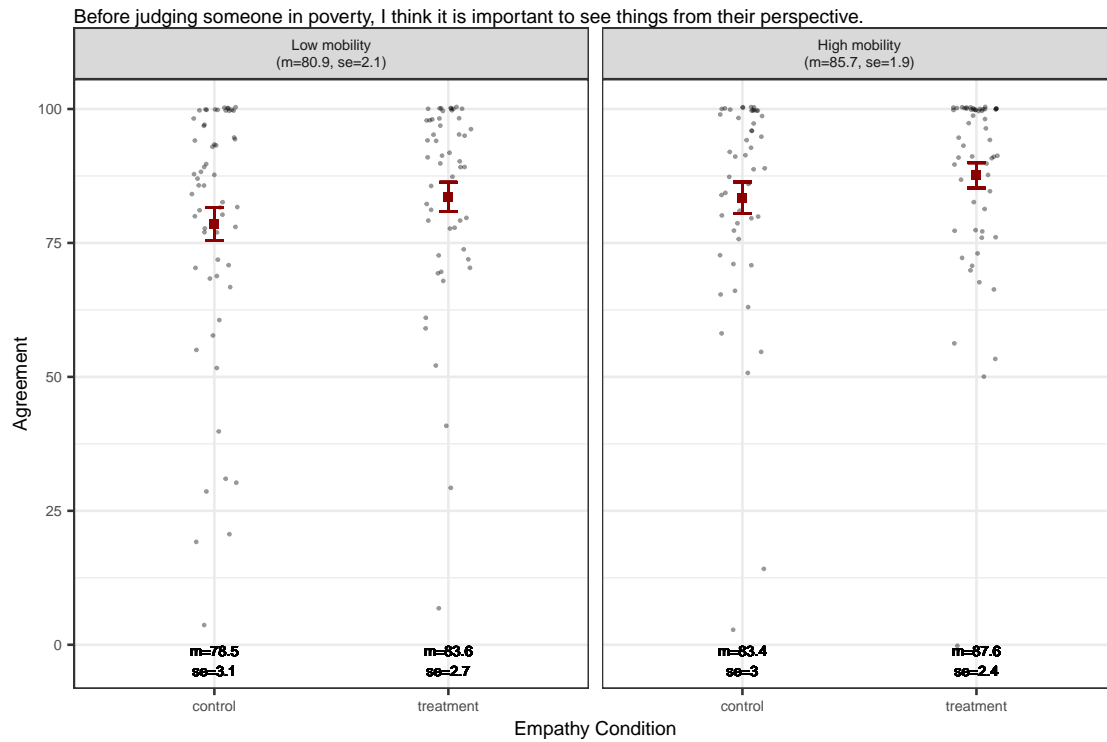
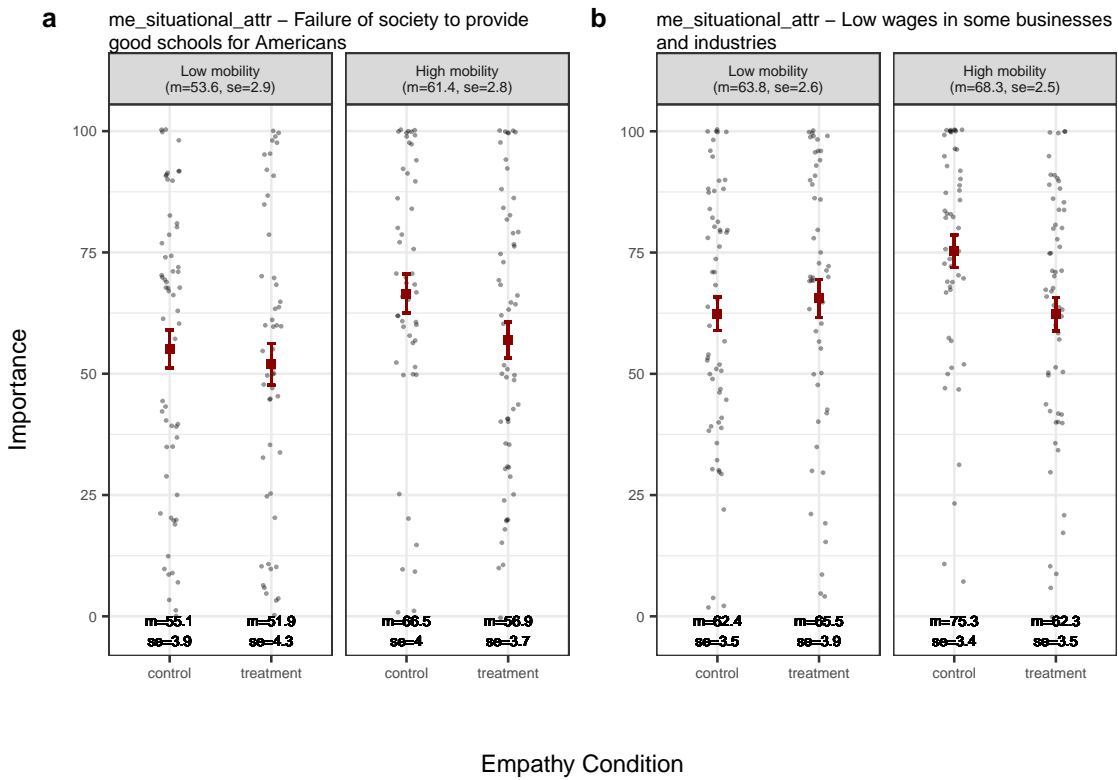
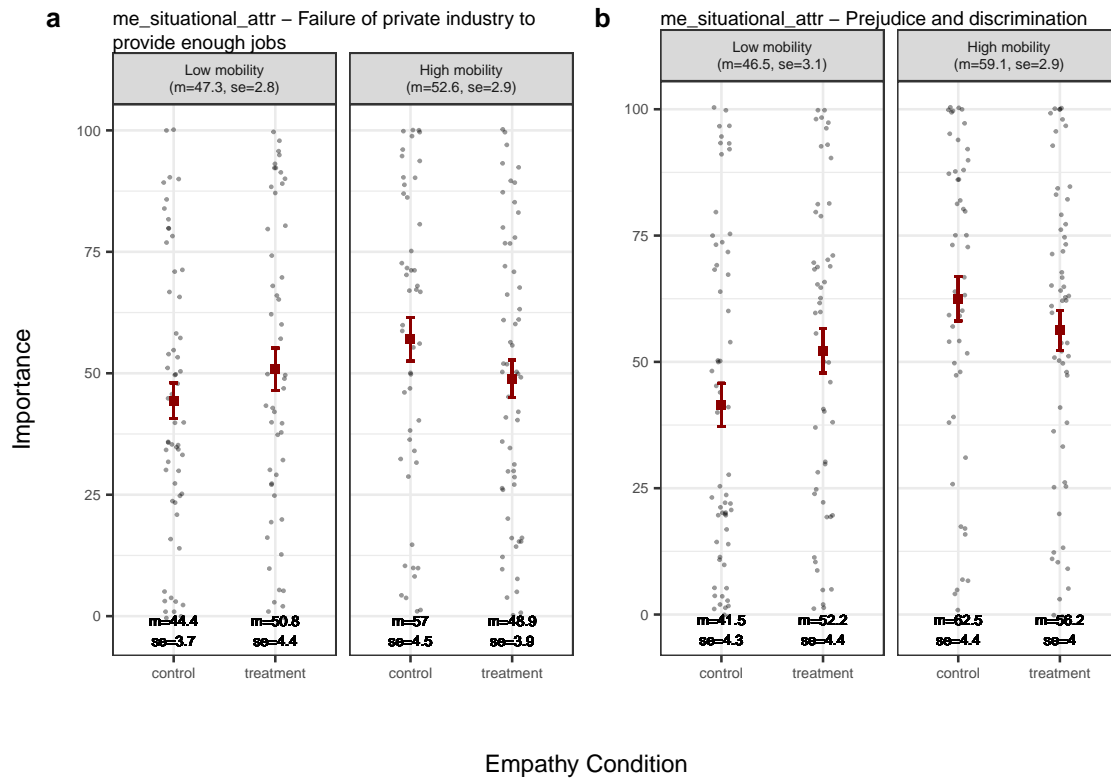


Figure 9: Perspective taking (2)

2.2.3 Situational attribution of poverty





2.2.4 Dispositional attribution of poverty

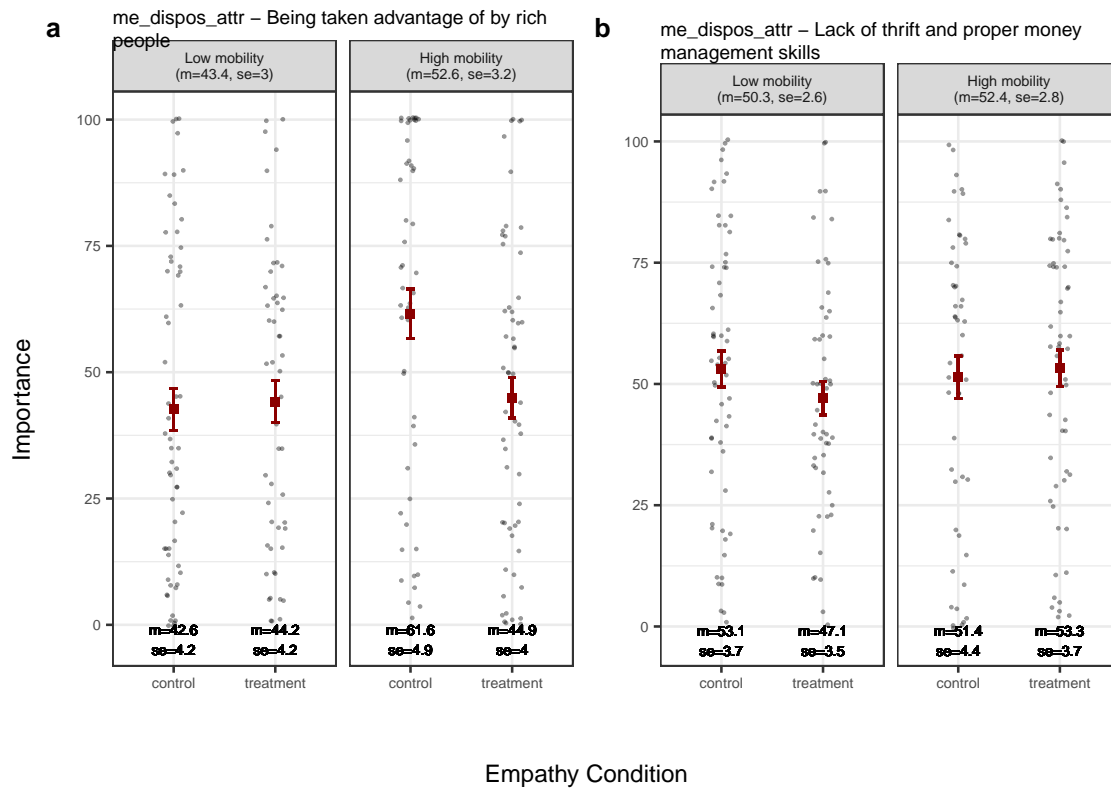


Figure 10: Dispositional attribution (1)

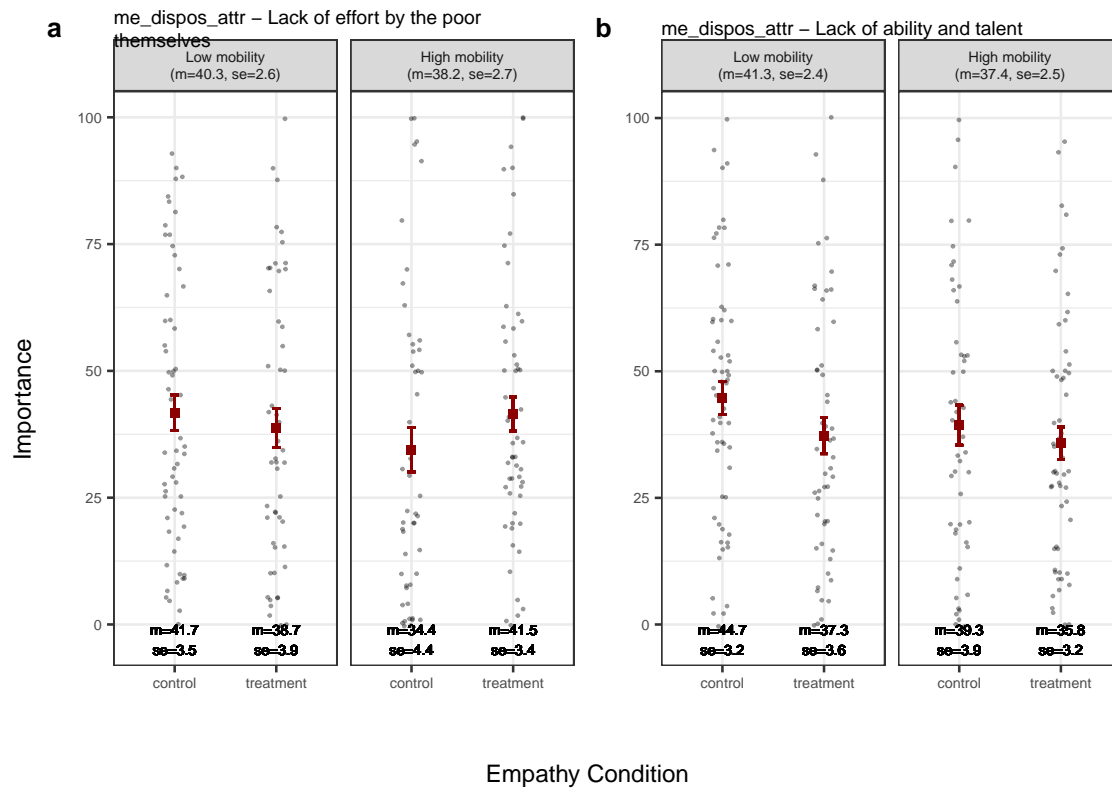


Figure 11: Dispositional attribution (2)

2.3 Moderators

2.3.1 Perceived income

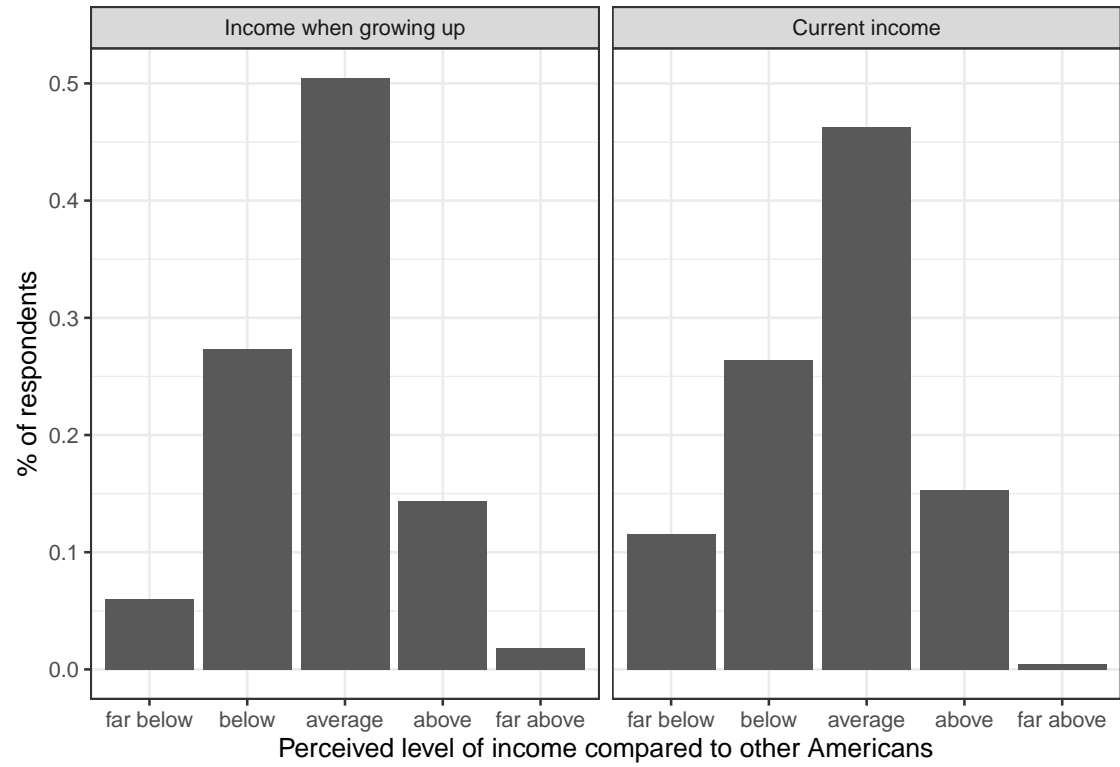


Figure 12: Perceived level of income when growing up versus current perceived income

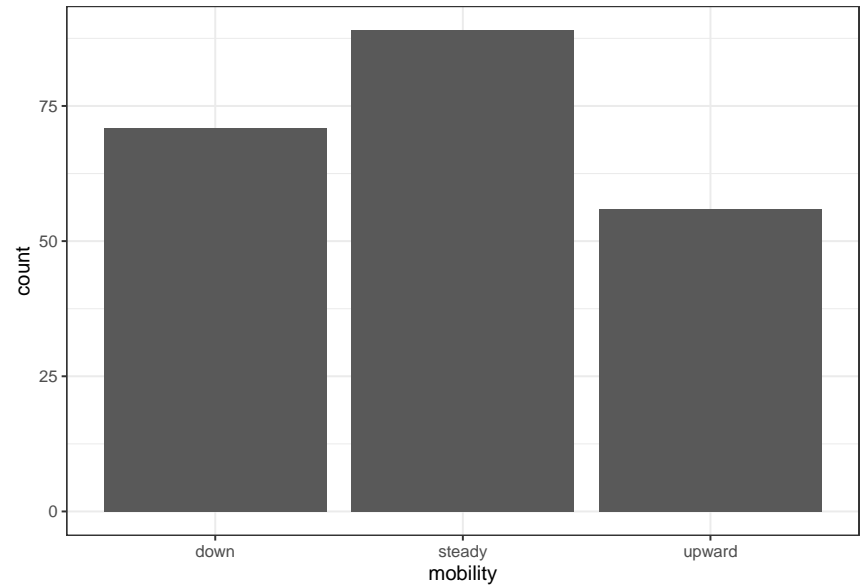


Figure 13: Number of respondents who experienced upward mobility, downward mobility, or no change in socioeconomic status

Table 9: Transition percentages from perceived past income (rows) to perceived current income (columns)

	far below	below	average	above	far above
far below	2.31	1.39	0.93	1.39	0.00
below	3.70	8.80	12.04	2.78	0.00
average	4.17	12.96	26.39	6.94	0.00
above	0.93	2.78	6.48	3.70	0.46
far above	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.00

The upper triangle of the table indicates the percentage of respondents who experienced upward mobility (25.9% in total).

The lower triangle of the table indicates the percentage of respondents who experienced downward mobility (32.9% in total).

3 Composite

3.1 Dependent variables

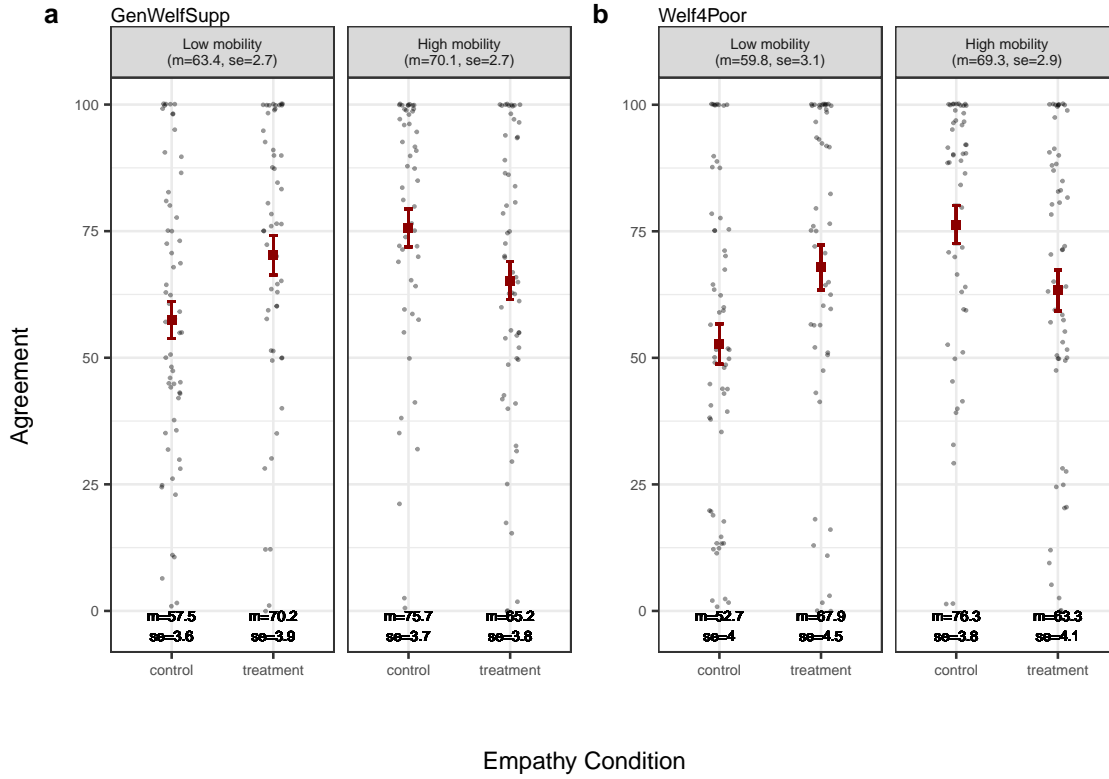


Figure 14: GenWelfSupp and Welf4Poor composite

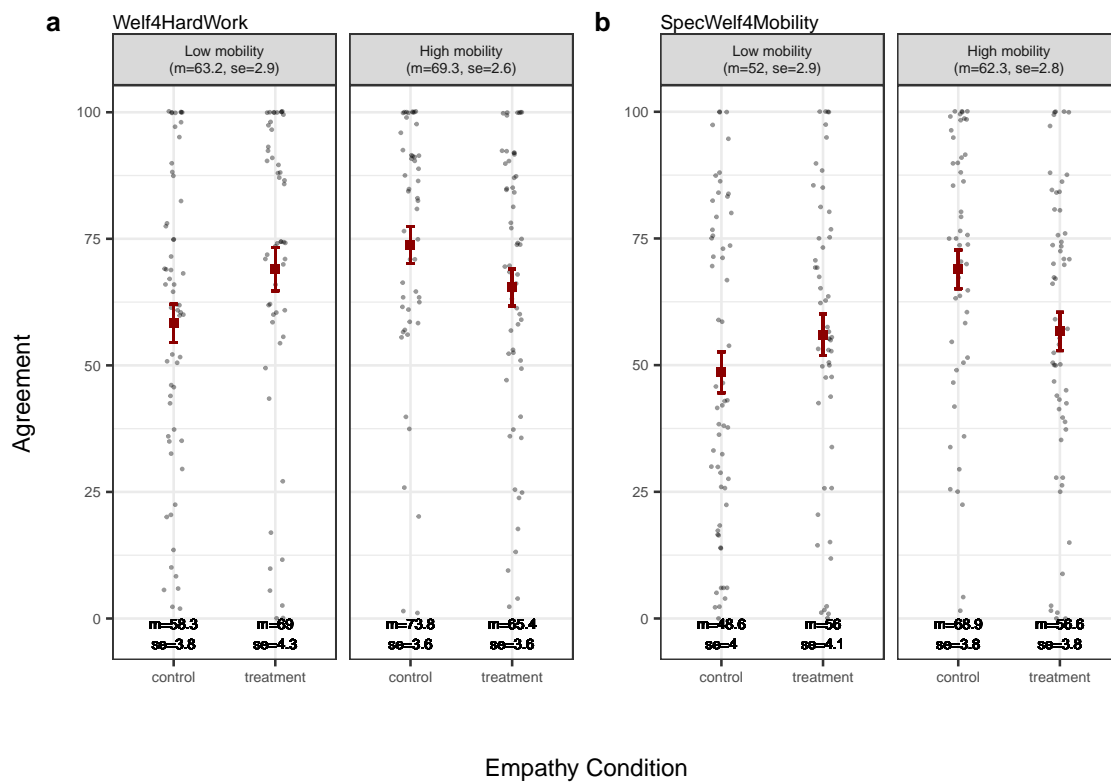


Figure 15: Welf4HardWork and SpecWelf4Mobility

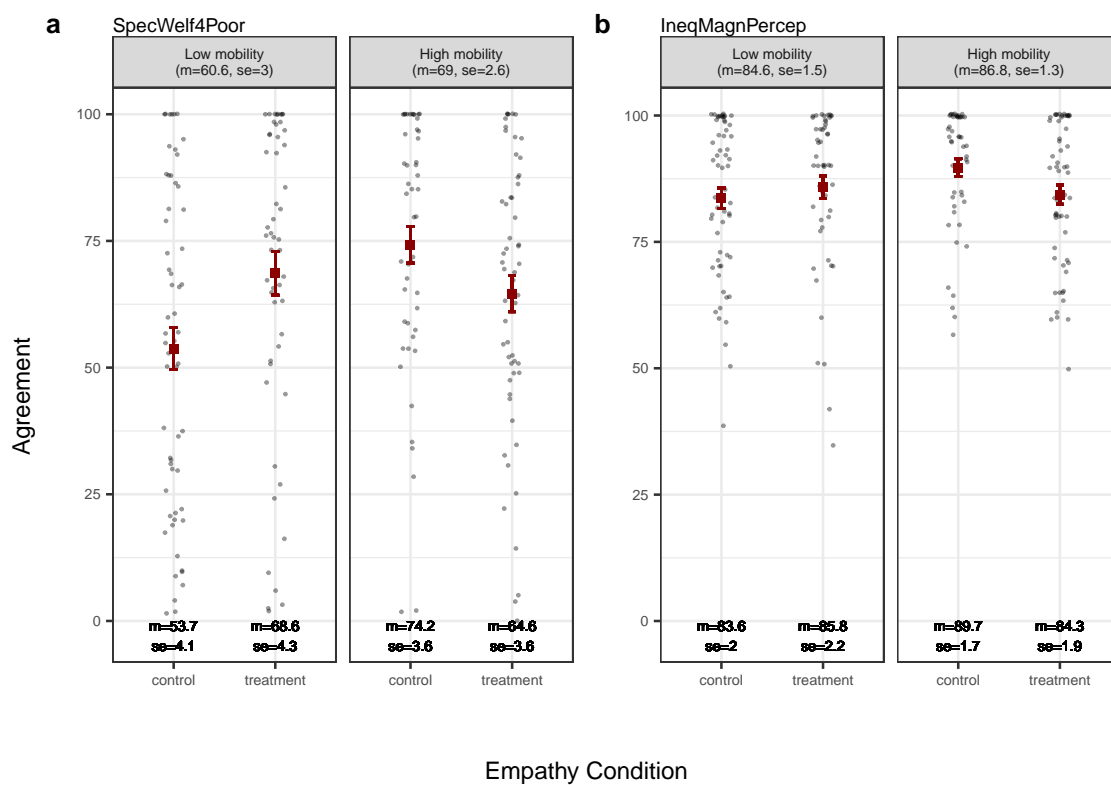


Figure 16: SpecWelf4Poor and IneqMagnPercep composite

3.2 Mediators

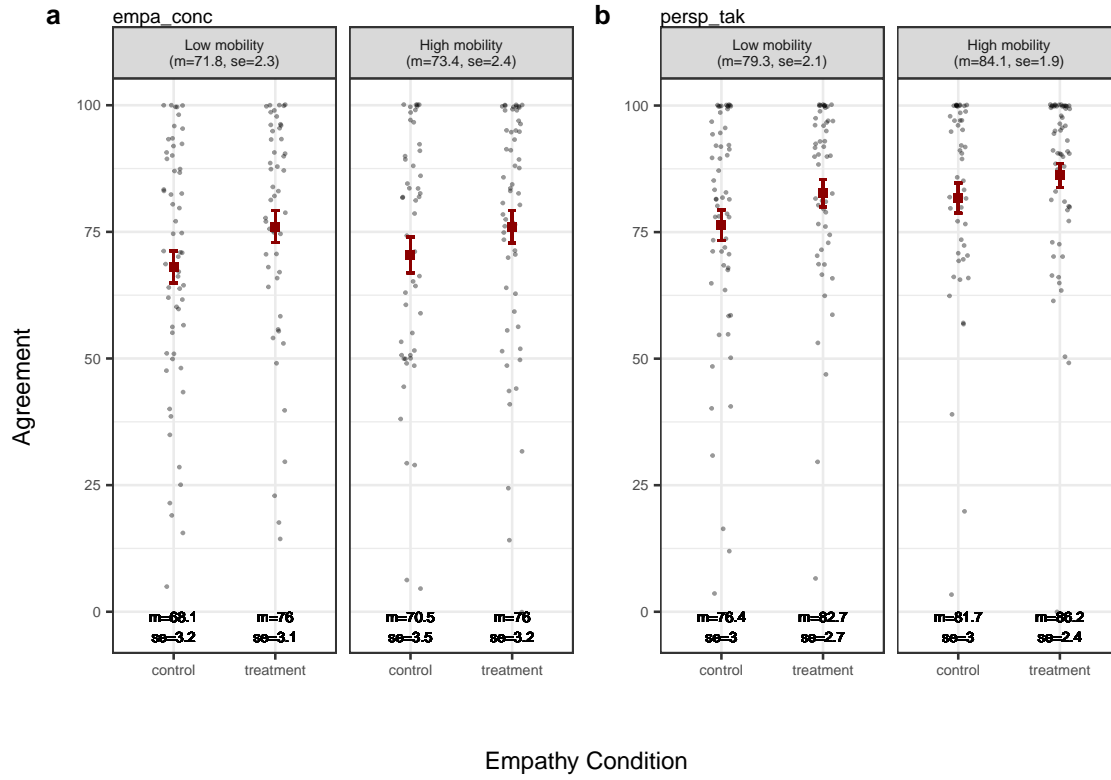


Figure 17: Empathetic concern and perspective taking composite

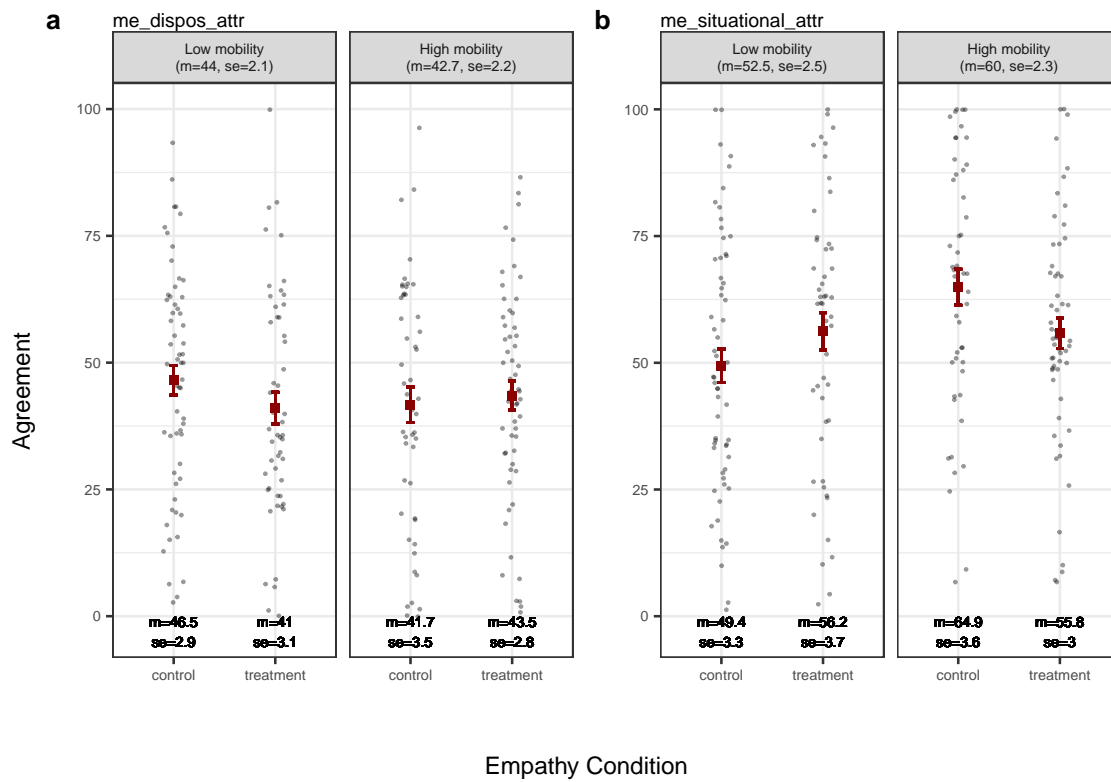


Figure 18: Dispositional and situational attribution composite

4 Regression analysis

4.1 Support for welfare policy

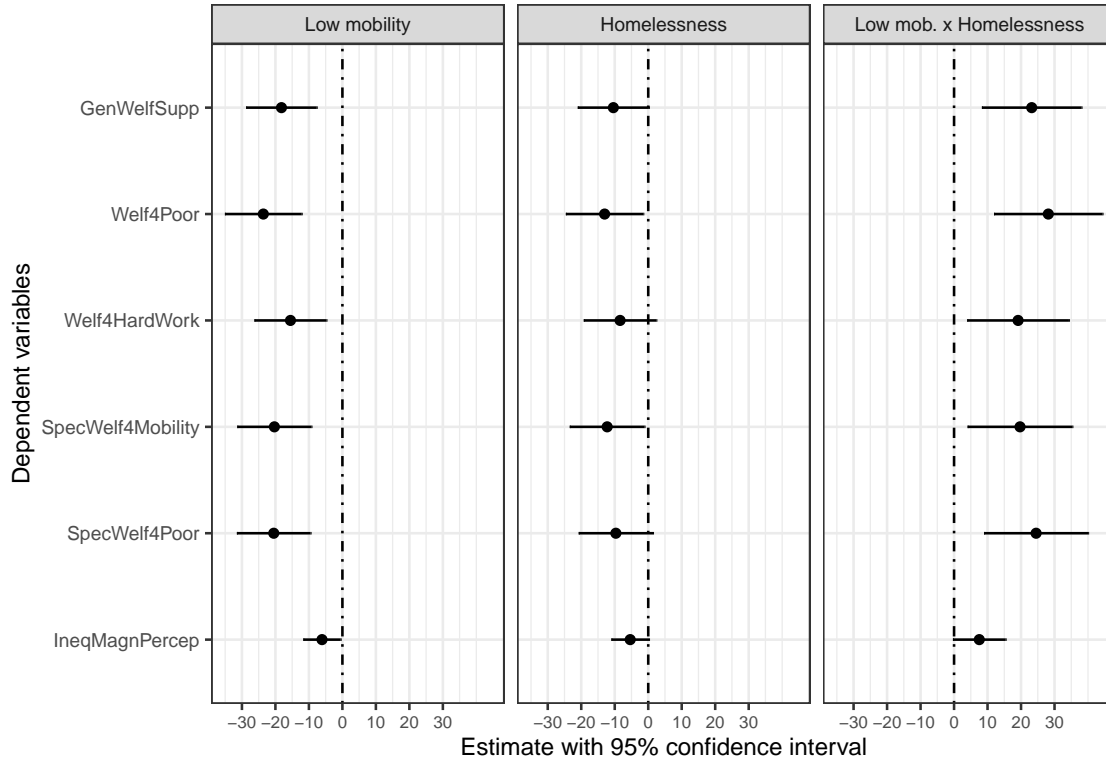


Figure 19: Effect plot for the two conditions and their interaction

Table 10: Regression table for welfare preferences

	Dependent variables: Support for welfare policies					
	GenWelfSupp	Welf4Poor	Welf4HardWork	SpecWelf4Mobility	SpecWelf4Poor	IneqMagnPercep
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Constant	75.65*** (3.95)	76.35*** (4.30)	73.79*** (4.03)	68.90*** (4.15)	74.24*** (4.13)	89.71*** (2.09)
Low Mobility	-18.20*** (5.34)	-23.61*** (5.82)	-15.51*** (5.46)	-20.31*** (5.62)	-20.50*** (5.58)	-6.09** (2.83)
Poverty	-10.42* (5.39)	-13.02** (5.87)	-8.40 (5.50)	-12.26** (5.66)	-9.66* (5.63)	-5.38* (2.85)
Low Mobility:Poverty	23.19*** (7.55)	28.15*** (8.22)	19.12** (7.71)	19.70** (7.94)	24.50*** (7.88)	7.54* (4.00)
Observations	216	216	216	216	216	216
R ²	0.06	0.08	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.02
Adjusted R ²	0.04	0.06	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.01
Residual Std. Error (df = 212)	27.65	30.11	28.23	29.08	28.88	14.64
F Statistic (df = 3; 212)	4.24***	5.77***	2.91**	4.40***	4.92***	1.79

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

4.2 Support for welfare policy adjusted for demographics

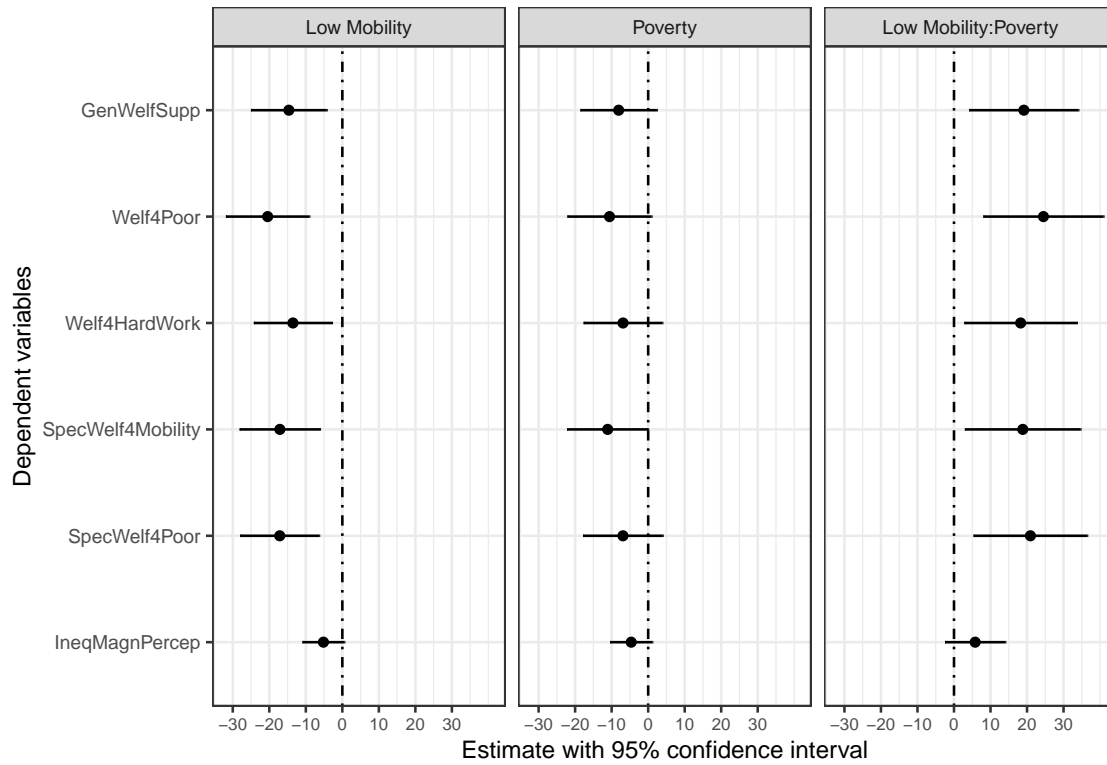


Figure 20: Effect plot for the two conditions, their interaction while controlling for education, gender, race, age, and income

Table 11: Regression table for welfare preferences adjusted for demographics

	Dependent variables: Support for welfare policies					
	GenWelfSupp	Welf4Poor	Welf4HardWork	SpecWelf4Mobility	SpecWelf4Poor	IneqMagnPercep
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Constant	-177.95 (292.26)	-190.12 (321.75)	-31.91 (301.35)	-340.51 (309.83)	-253.22 (304.40)	126.90 (161.46)
Low Mobility	-14.64*** (5.27)	-20.45*** (5.80)	-13.52** (5.43)	-17.11*** (5.58)	-17.14*** (5.49)	-5.17* (2.91)
Poverty	-8.08 (5.31)	-10.58* (5.85)	-6.88 (5.47)	-11.09* (5.63)	-6.90 (5.53)	-4.64 (2.93)
College degree	-0.62 (5.63)	0.48 (6.20)	0.39 (5.81)	-2.98 (5.97)	-1.88 (5.87)	3.50 (3.11)
Postgraduate	-0.25 (7.42)	2.20 (8.17)	1.76 (7.65)	0.21 (7.87)	1.07 (7.73)	6.55 (4.10)
Male	-1.27 (3.93)	-2.47 (4.32)	-8.19** (4.05)	-9.30** (4.16)	-4.61 (4.09)	1.03 (2.17)
Black/African-American	-10.60 (10.54)	-15.28 (11.60)	-9.88 (10.87)	-5.17 (11.17)	-13.34 (10.98)	2.67 (5.82)
Latino/Hispanic	2.48 (10.04)	-4.40 (11.05)	-10.15 (10.35)	-14.53 (10.64)	-10.81 (10.46)	3.28 (5.55)
Other	-8.67 (11.28)	-16.21 (12.42)	-8.38 (11.64)	-17.05 (11.96)	-21.91* (11.75)	-1.57 (6.23)
White/Caucasian	-6.82 (7.03)	-9.12 (7.74)	-8.43 (7.25)	-18.18** (7.45)	-11.22 (7.32)	2.18 (3.88)
Year of Birth	0.14 (0.15)	0.14 (0.16)	0.06 (0.15)	0.22 (0.16)	0.18 (0.15)	-0.02 (0.08)
Income	-0.0002*** (0.0000)	-0.0002*** (0.0000)	-0.0002*** (0.0000)	-0.0001** (0.0000)	-0.0002*** (0.0000)	-0.0001*** (0.0000)
Low Mobility:Poverty	19.14** (7.58)	24.50*** (8.35)	18.25** (7.82)	18.83** (8.04)	20.93*** (7.90)	5.80 (4.19)
Observations	215	215	215	215	215	215
R ²	0.17	0.17	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.07
Adjusted R ²	0.12	0.12	0.09	0.11	0.13	0.01
Residual Std. Error (df = 202)	26.48	29.15	27.31	28.07	27.58	14.63
F Statistic (df = 12; 202)	3.45***	3.42***	2.70***	3.10***	3.74***	1.22

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

4.3 Mediators

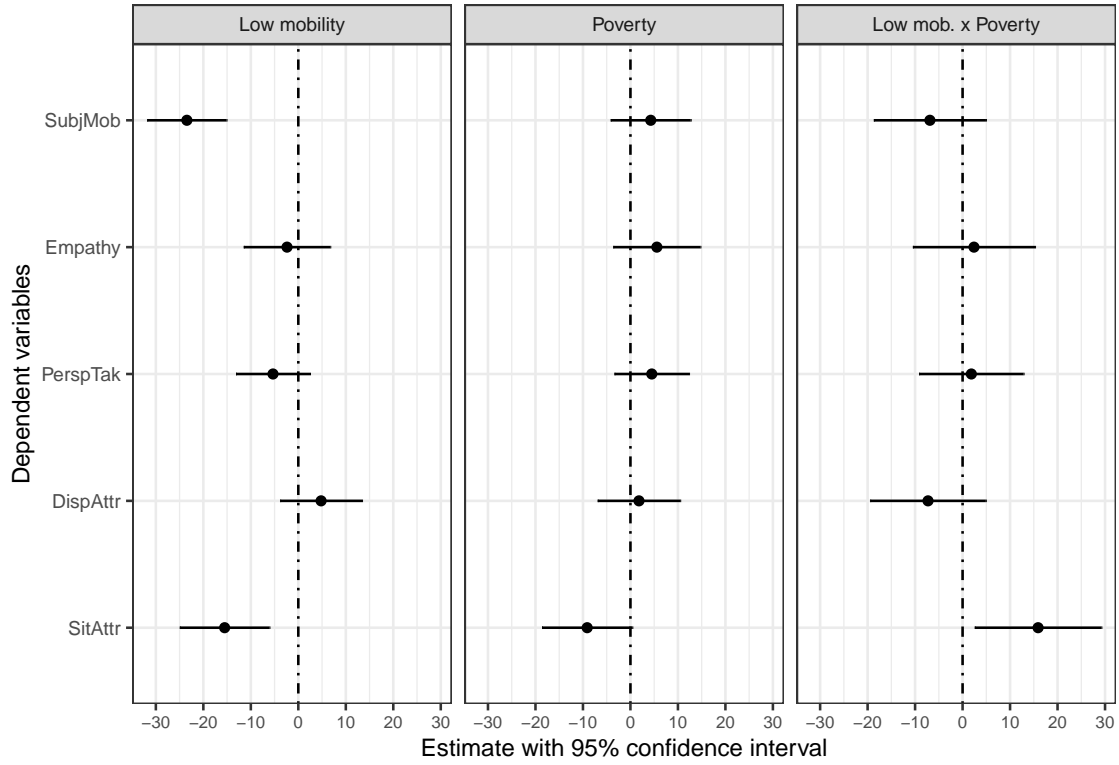


Figure 21: Effect plot for regressing the mediators on the two conditions and their interaction

Table 12: Regression table for mediators on the two conditions and their interaction

	Dependent variables:				
	Empathy	PerspTak	DispAttr	SitAttr	SubjMob
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Constant	70.46*** (3.41)	81.70*** (2.92)	41.72*** (3.23)	64.92*** (3.54)	56.57*** (3.13)
Low Mobility	-2.38 (4.62)	-5.33 (3.95)	4.80 (4.37)	-15.52*** (4.79)	-23.47*** (4.24)
Poverty	5.56 (4.66)	4.49 (3.98)	1.79 (4.41)	-9.11* (4.83)	4.27 (4.27)
Low Mobility:Poverty	2.40 (6.52)	1.84 (5.58)	-7.28 (6.18)	15.90** (6.76)	-6.88 (5.99)
Observations	216	216	216	216	216
R ²	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.05	0.28
Adjusted R ²	0.01	0.02	-0.005	0.03	0.27
Residual Std. Error (df = 212)	23.90	20.45	22.62	24.77	21.93
F Statistic (df = 3; 212)	1.58	2.29*	0.65	3.51**	27.70***

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

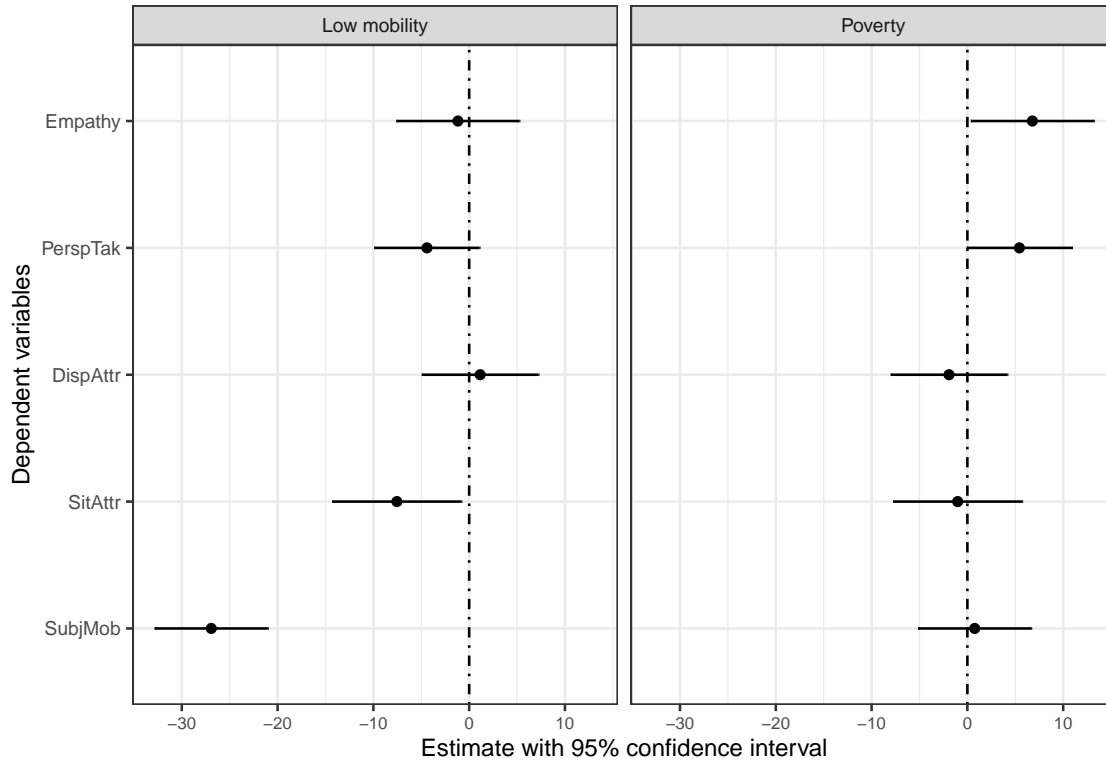


Figure 22: Effect plot for regressing mediators on the two conditions (without interaction)

Table 13: Regression table for mediators on the two conditions (without interaction)

	Dependent variables:				
	Empathy	PerspTak	DispAttr	SitAttr	SubjMob
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Constant	69.80*** (2.90)	81.20*** (2.48)	43.72*** (2.76)	60.56*** (3.05)	58.46*** (2.67)
Low Mobility	-1.17 (3.26)	-4.41 (2.79)	1.15 (3.09)	-7.55** (3.42)	-26.92*** (3.00)
Poverty	6.78** (3.26)	5.43* (2.78)	-1.91 (3.09)	-1.01 (3.42)	0.77 (2.99)
Observations	216	216	216	216	216
R ²	0.02	0.03	0.003	0.02	0.28
Adjusted R ²	0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.27
Residual Std. Error (df = 213)	23.85	20.41	22.64	25.03	21.95
F Statistic (df = 2; 213)	2.30	3.40**	0.28	2.45*	40.82***

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

4.4 Mediators adjusted for demographics

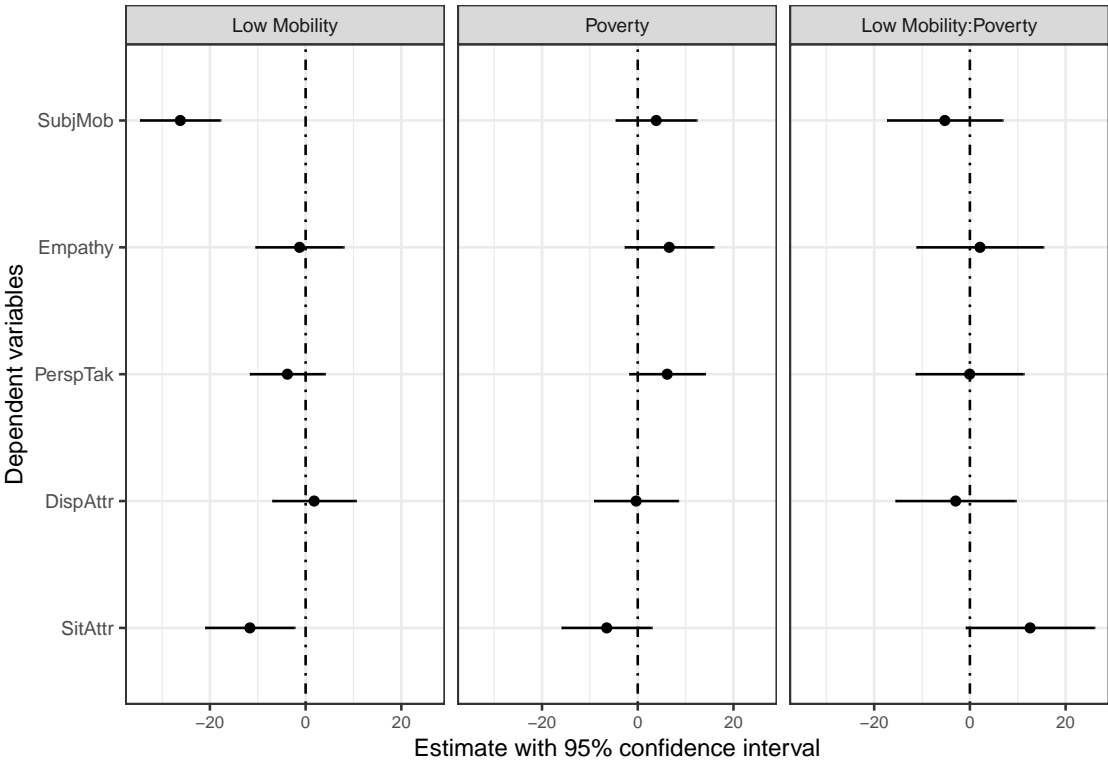


Figure 23: Effect plot for regressing mediators on the two conditions and their interaction adjusted for demographics variables

Table 14: Regression table for mediators on conditions and their interaction adjusted for demographics

	Dependent variables:				
	Empathy	PerspTak	DispAttr	SitAttr	SubjMob
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Constant	218.96 (258.86)	188.61 (220.32)	654.55*** (245.32)	-373.01 (262.47)	694.10*** (235.77)
Low Mobility	-1.26 (4.67)	-3.81 (3.97)	1.78 (4.42)	-11.64** (4.73)	-26.19*** (4.25)
Poverty	6.57 (4.70)	6.15 (4.00)	-0.34 (4.46)	-6.49 (4.77)	3.85 (4.28)
College degree	-6.08 (4.99)	-1.62 (4.25)	-4.82 (4.73)	-1.38 (5.06)	-4.86 (4.55)
Postgraduate	-9.54 (6.58)	-2.69 (5.60)	-9.18 (6.23)	0.56 (6.67)	-4.28 (5.99)
Male	-5.72 (3.48)	-4.94* (2.96)	4.75 (3.30)	-10.36*** (3.53)	2.39 (3.17)
Black/African-American	-3.19 (9.34)	-0.13 (7.95)	0.65 (8.85)	6.11 (9.47)	-5.37 (8.50)
Latino/Hispanic	-9.68 (8.89)	0.10 (7.57)	-11.75 (8.43)	-3.65 (9.02)	-4.84 (8.10)
Other	-12.69 (9.99)	-5.61 (8.51)	8.69 (9.47)	-15.26 (10.13)	0.91 (9.10)
White/Caucasian	-7.87 (6.23)	-0.77 (5.30)	-5.06 (5.90)	-10.17 (6.32)	-0.78 (5.67)
Year of Birth	-0.06 (0.13)	-0.05 (0.11)	-0.31** (0.12)	0.23* (0.13)	-0.32*** (0.12)
Income	-0.0001** (0.0000)	-0.0001*** (0.0000)	0.0001* (0.0000)	-0.0001*** (0.0000)	0.0001* (0.0000)
Low Mobility:Poverty	2.11 (6.72)	-0.04 (5.72)	-2.98 (6.37)	12.58* (6.81)	-5.23 (6.12)
Observations	215	215	215	215	215
R ²	0.10	0.12	0.07	0.16	0.34
Adjusted R ²	0.04	0.06	0.02	0.11	0.31
Residual Std. Error (df = 202)	23.46	19.96	22.23	23.78	21.36
F Statistic (df = 12; 202)	1.82**	2.24**	1.35	3.28***	8.85***

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

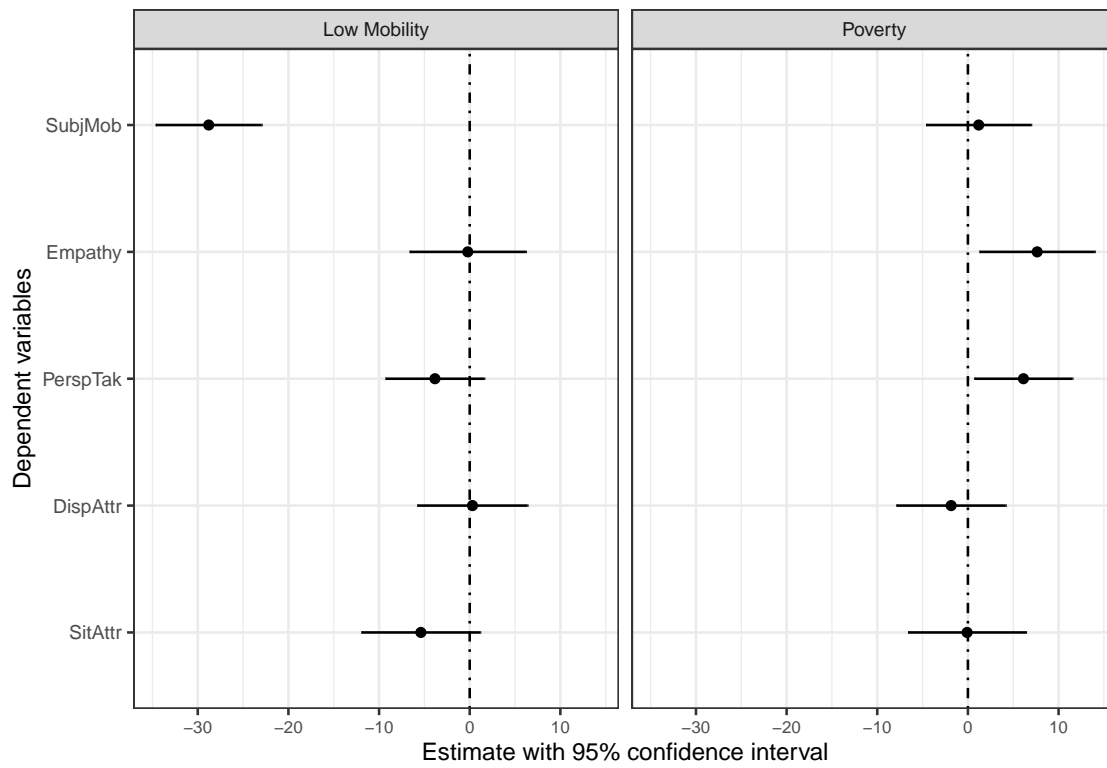


Figure 24: Effect plot for the two conditions (without interaction) adjusted for demographics

Table 15: Regression table for mediators on conditions (without interaction) adjusted for demographics

	Dependent variables:				
	empa_conc	persp_tak	me_dispos_attr	me_situational_attr	sub_effort_1
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Constant	213.11 (257.61)	188.74 (219.20)	662.83*** (244.21)	-407.99 (263.34)	708.65*** (235.00)
Low Mobility	-0.21 (3.25)	-3.83 (2.77)	0.30 (3.08)	-5.39 (3.32)	-28.79*** (2.97)
Poverty	7.64** (3.22)	6.13** (2.74)	-1.85 (3.06)	-0.09 (3.30)	1.19 (2.94)
College degree	-6.09 (4.98)	-1.62 (4.24)	-4.80 (4.72)	-1.46 (5.09)	-4.83 (4.54)
Postgraduate	-9.37 (6.54)	-2.69 (5.56)	-9.41 (6.20)	1.55 (6.68)	-4.69 (5.97)
Male	-5.73 (3.47)	-4.94* (2.95)	4.77 (3.29)	-10.43*** (3.55)	2.41 (3.17)
Black/African-American	-3.00 (9.30)	-0.13 (7.91)	0.38 (8.81)	7.23 (9.50)	-5.83 (8.48)
Latino/Hispanic	-9.15 (8.71)	0.09 (7.41)	-12.51 (8.26)	-0.47 (8.90)	-6.16 (7.94)
Other	-12.93 (9.94)	-5.61 (8.46)	9.04 (9.43)	-16.70 (10.16)	1.51 (9.07)
White/Caucasian	-7.69 (6.19)	-0.78 (5.26)	-5.32 (5.87)	-9.07 (6.32)	-1.24 (5.64)
Year of Birth	-0.06 (0.13)	-0.05 (0.11)	-0.31** (0.12)	0.25* (0.13)	-0.33*** (0.12)
Income	-0.0001*** (0.0000)	-0.0001*** (0.0000)	0.0001* (0.0000)	-0.0001*** (0.0000)	0.0001** (0.0000)
Observations	215	215	215	215	215
R ²	0.10	0.12	0.07	0.15	0.34
Adjusted R ²	0.05	0.07	0.02	0.10	0.31
Residual Std. Error (df = 203)	23.40	19.91	22.19	23.92	21.35
F Statistic (df = 11; 203)	1.98**	2.45***	1.45	3.23***	9.60***

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

5 Moderated-mediation analysis

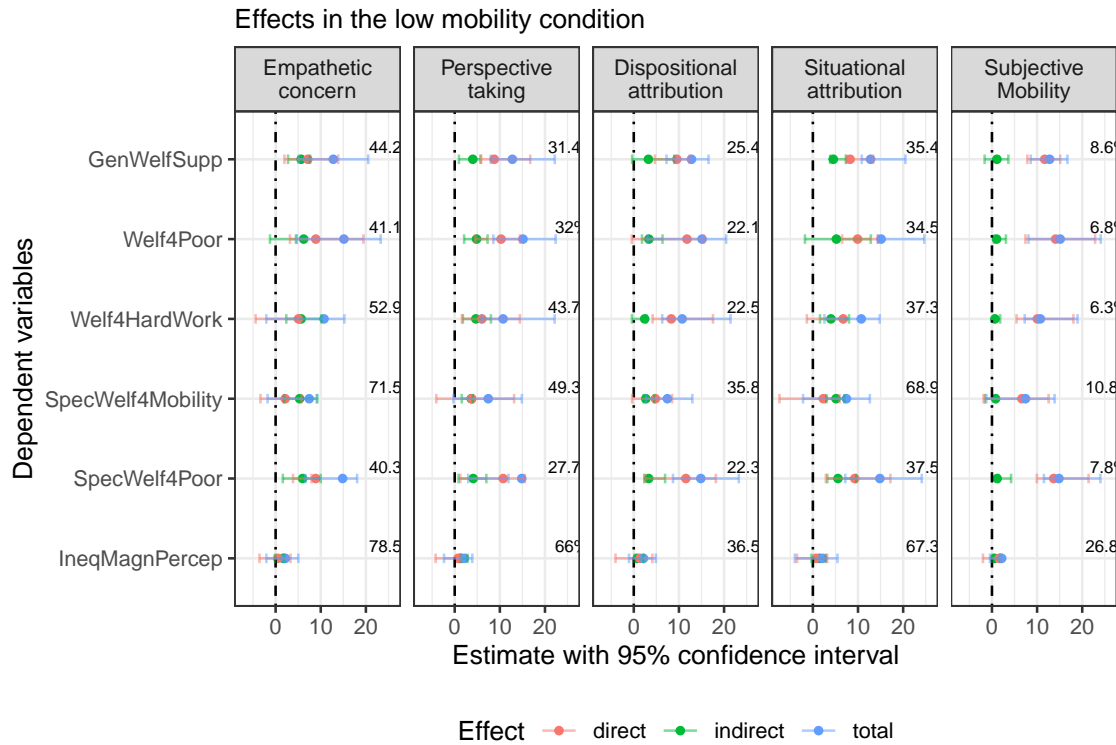


Figure 25: Direct, indirect, and total effects in the low mobility condition with % explained by mediator

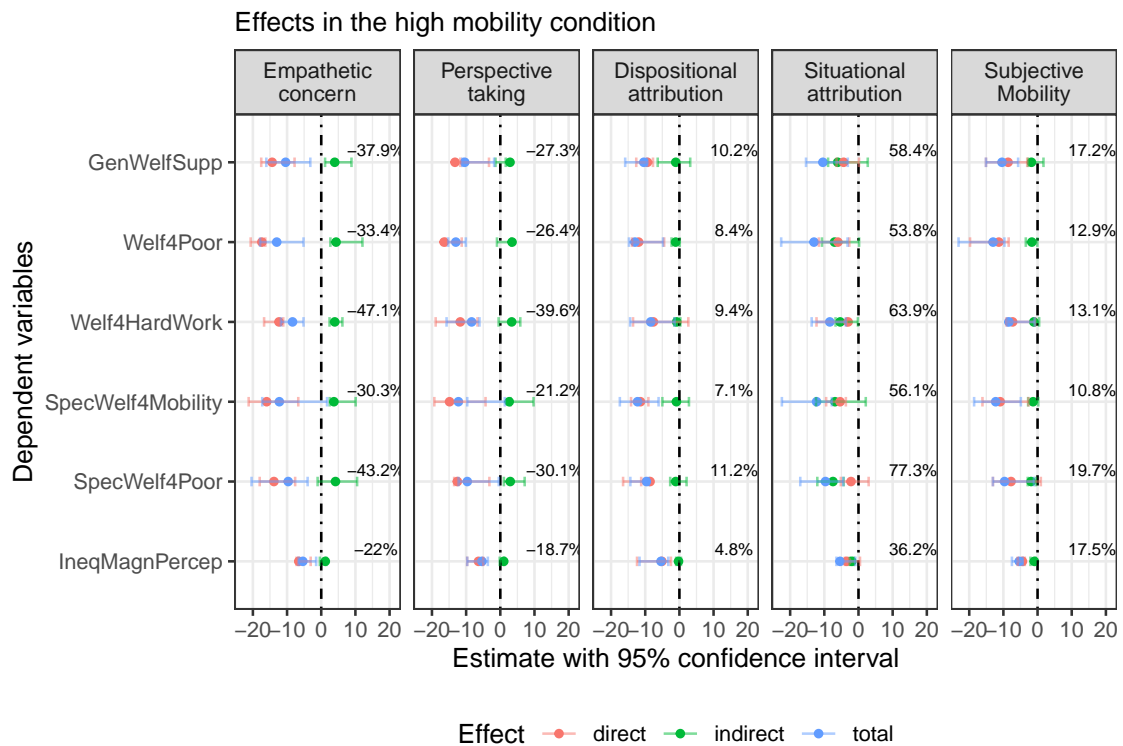


Figure 26: Direct, indirect, and total effects in the high mobility condition with % explained by mediator

6 Key takeaways

6.1 Interaction effect

The effect of exposure to poverty depends on whether respondents find themselves in a high or low mobility society. Consider support for general welfare policies as an example; the general pattern holds among all dependent variables (fig. 19), even when controlling for demographics (fig. 20):

In the high mobility condition, participants in the exposure to poverty condition reported marginally significantly lower support for welfare policy than participants in the control condition ($B = -10.42, se = 5.39, t(212) = -1.93, p = 0.054$). In the low mobility condition, participants in the exposure to poverty condition reported significantly higher support for welfare policy than participants in the control condition ($B = 12.78, se = 5.29, t(212) = 2.42, p = 0.016$). Support for general welfare policy was significantly stronger in the low mobility than in the high mobility condition ($B = 23.19, se = 7.55, t(212) = 3.07, p = 0.002$).

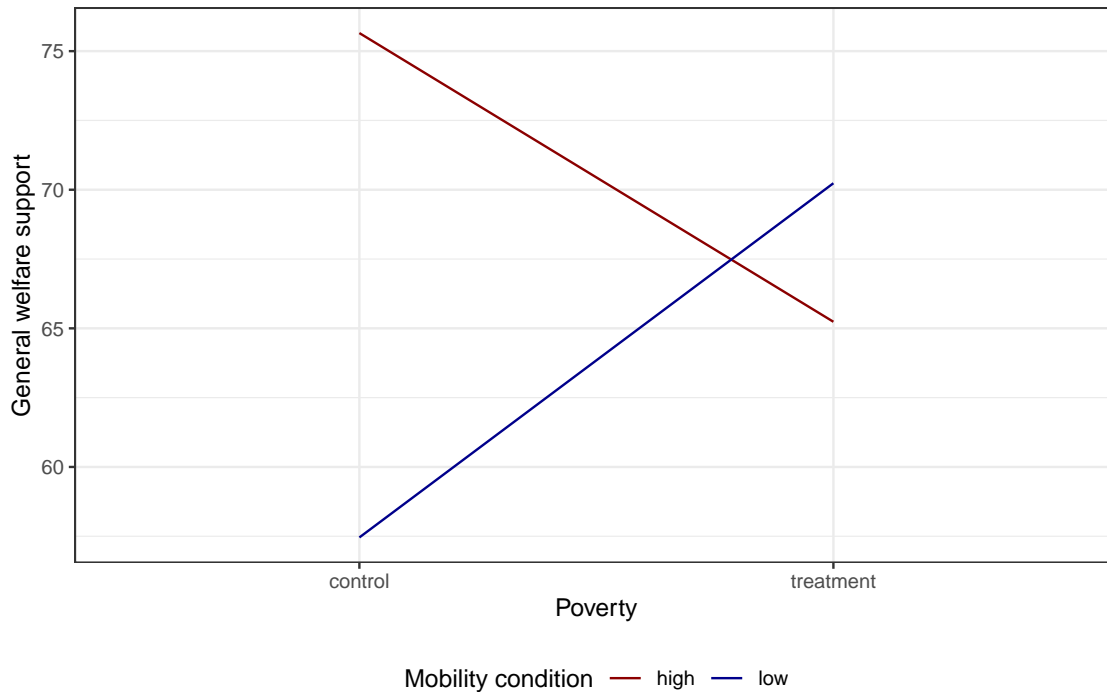
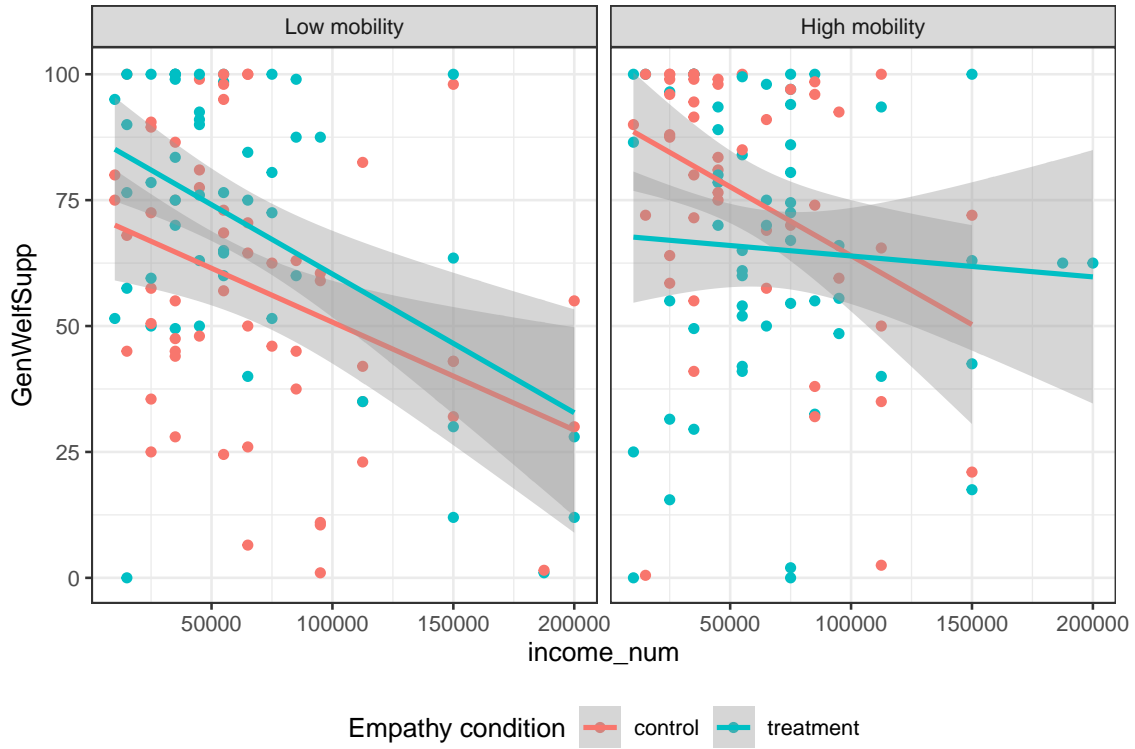


Figure 27: General support for welfare policies

6.2 Income

```
## 'geom_smooth()' using formula 'y ~ x'
```



6.3 Mobility

6.4 Moderated Mediation

The mediators explain the effect of exposure to poverty in the low but not in the high mobility condition. The only exception is situational attribution to poverty in the high mobility condition (fig. 25 and fig. 26).

The effect of the exposure to poverty condition was mediated by ...

1. **empathetic concern** in the low mobility but not in the high mobility condition. In the low mobility condition, empathy explains at least 38% and at most 73% of the effect of poverty exposure on welfare policy support.
2. **perspective taking** in the low but not in the high mobility condition. Perspective taking explains less of the total effect of poverty exposure than empathetic concern.
3. **dispositional attributions** in the low mobility condition (from 23% to 38% explained) but exposure to poverty was only marginally mediated in the high mobility condition (from 4% to 8% explained).
4. **situational attributions** in the low mobility condition (from 34% to 58% explained) and even stronger in high mobility condition (from 34% to 76% explained).

6.5 Unexpected results

1. Respondents in the high mobility condition are more likely to support welfare policies than those in the low mobility condition. If respondents have not been exposed to poverty, the average support for general welfare is about 75.65 in the high mobility and 57.46 in the low mobility condition.
2. In the low mobility condition, situational attribution is not a stronger mediator than dispositional attribution. Instead, these mediators explain the total effect of the exposure to poverty condition similarly well.
3. In the high mobility condition, dispositional attribution is not a stronger mediator than situational attribution. To the contrary, the mediation through situational attribution is strongest among all mediators while mediation through dispositional attribution is weak.

One explanation is that respondents might attribute high mobility to welfare policies and would therefore endorse an even more comprehensive welfare state. One might therefore want to ask participants how extensive and efficient they perceive extant welfare policies.

This does not necessarily mean that respondents believe in the efficacy of welfare policies. In fact, situational attributions to poverty - such as the failure of the government to provide good schools - is the strongest mediator. Yet counterintuitively, the high mobility condition seems to lead respondents to consider structural rather individual factors (since situational attributions are highest and dispositional ones are low). In the “structural mindset”, expanding welfare policies might appear plausible to respondents.